IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations and Their League

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984). It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued

in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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Letter from Major Butler at Canadasagoe, & observed
the Indians complained much of not being supported agre
able to the Genl. Promises, that he could get but 40 ou
of 240 to go out, and that they accused Colo. Bolton of hav
told them Lies &ca — i.e That Governmt. had deceived them

onday 5th. Colo. Johnson had several private Meetings with the Mo
hawks who came to offer their Service to accompany him up.

Tuesday 7th. Sabbine. Colo. Johnson saw a Letter here from Colo. Bo
ton, who is very plain with the General on the Neglect of
giving the Indians timely Assistance.

ednesday 8th. This Afternoon the Mohawks met Colo. Johnson by Ap
pointment, when Isaac the Chief congratulated him on his
Arrival, after which Colo. Johnson address'd them in a Speec
wherein he gave them a Brief Acct. of his Proceedings & the
Disappointments he had met with to the Time of his Arr
val, & concluded with telling them that he was now ready
to proceed against the Enemy & very well pleased to se
such a Number of fine young Men of their Nation ready
accompany them adding that he had order'd an Ox for a
Feast for them.

Isaac then got up, & after many Compliments returned their best Thanks for what Col.^o Johnson had communicated to them of past Tran-actions, and said that in Return they would recount what had happened to them during that Period. Accordingly he proceeded to give an Account of the Many Artifices, Promises & Threats the Rebels had used to bring them over to their Interests; that they had at length been obliged to abandon their Village, that they were pursued, some of them taken, others killed, & that the Remainder was now before him ready to follow him any where & happy to see him after so long an Absence, adding that they had not been idle, but had obtained some Satisfaction from the Enemy & that two Parties of them were now out against the Rebels.

Col.^o Johnson returned them Thanks for their Speech, lamented their Loses & promised to perform the Ceremonies usual upon such Occasions at a proper Time, not doubting they would obtain ample Satisfaction soon. After this Is got up & pointed to young Brant as the person now unanimously recommended to be their Head Warrior in t Place of the last.

Col.^o Johnson thereupon prepared two Gorgets & young Brant advancing ~~but~~ to he put one about his Neck with the

cust.

customary Exhortations adding that   was a very worthy
Man that had been considered as a head Warrior, that he theref
recommended him as an able Coadjutor to Brant, and ac
cordingly put the other Gorget about his Neck, for which the
all gave him many Thanks & the two that had been raised da
ced the War Dance, taking him by the Hand as they past.
Col. Johnson then told them they might have a Dance befor
the Door: they accordingly danced Part of the Night & he
gave them Liquor on the Occasion.

The Cachnawagas also sent some of their Chiefs over to
compliment Col. Johnson assuring him that they respe
ted him in the Place & Station of Sr. Wm. Johnson, & that
they felt much Joy at his Arrival. — They got some
Provisions, Liquor &c, & took their Leave. —

Thursday Septr. 9th. The Cachnawagas again came over to acqua
Col. Johnson ~~see~~ with their Proceedings with Lt. Col. Campbell, who the
said was just gone from their Village, & that he had order
them two Oxen but no Liquor: they said they had com
to pay their Compliments to him, & assured him they shoul
ever consider him at their Head as they had done Sir
Wm. Johnson & love him above all others, adding that they
were very busy in collecting their Warriors & had already got 32 to
proceed.

The

He gave them a little Liquor &ca- but told them that if it h
been thought necessary they wou'd have had Liquor order'd them by Colo. Campbell.

The Mohocks came & return'd the No. of their People as follows

Turtle	Bear.	Wolf.	Total.
5	11	2	18.

The Onandagoes & Cayougas did the same.

Mohocks.			Onandagoes			Cayougas			Total.
Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	
10.	11.	11.	9.	..	..	5.	..	..	54

Some Arm Bands & other Articles were given out to the Ind.s

Friday 10th. The Mohocks received their Mounting & Colo. Johnson gave out 2 Prs. Arm Bands, one of them to a Cayouga Chief. - Two Meetings were also held with Parties going off & 2 Prs. of Arm Bands with some Pipes & Tobacco given them.

In the Afternoon Ensn. Johnson set off for St. Regis to collect the Indians & Mr. Dace with the 1st. Division of 6 Boats proceeded to the Cedars. - Colo. Johnson acquainted the Indians that he should set out Tomorrow. —

Saturday 11th. Colo. Johnson was detained by the Indians till 2 O'Cl

P.

Copy   Canawagaries Sepr. 8th 1779

Sir

I endeavoured but to no Purpose to prevail upon the Indians to make a Stand at Canadasagoe; the Rebels took poſseſsion of that Village the 7th inst. in the Evening; Joseph Brant who staid to reconnoitre them, and was near the Place when they entered it, says that to all Appearance they cannot be leſs than three thousand Men. The Chiefs have now determined to collect all the Force they can and meet them before they reach this, and I send in Capt. Powell to bring off with him such Indians as may be about Niagara in which I must beg you to give him all the aſsistance you can; and also to send out with them every Body you can spare.

The 7th inst. in the Evening a Runner came in from the Ohio informing that the Rebels were come up the Allegany, and had penetrated as far as Canawago, the Village at which Mr. Dockstader was stationed last Winter, and another Runner who came in this Morning, says they have destroyed a Village called Nasadago a Days Journey on this Side Canawago, but says they returned from thence and were building a Fort at a Place which the Indians call Niwgaracharie, & I believe is the same as La Boef.

The Indians seem in better Spirits & more determined than I have seen them since they left Chuchnut, and if they get any Succour from Niagara I am in hopes I shall be able to persuade them to attack the Rebels on their March, at any Rate I shall do my Endeavour to get them to make a Stand —

Joseph and the Chiefs think that a few Troops from Niagara would be of the greatest Service at this Juncture, as they would encourage and give them Spirits, and they imagine that this cannot be of any bad consequences to your Post as you can always be reinforced from Carleton Islands —

The Indian with Capt. Powell has some Strings of Wampum as a Message from the Chiefs to the Indians about Niagara —

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servt.

(Signed) John Butler

Lt. Col. Bolton.

N. 6.

Copy of a Letter from
Major Butler to Lt.
Colonel Bolton, dated
at Canawagaras Sepr.
8th. 1779 –
Recd. 24. –

(Copy)

Quebec 9th September 1779

Lieut. Col. Campbell

Sir

By a Letter which I Received from Sir John Johnson, dated the 6th instant, I find you had not then received my Letter of the 2d. Instant Sent, or intended to be Sent by Post, a Duplicate of which, was forwarded to you by Mr. Valentine of Sir John Johnsons Corps, who went Express, and arrived at Montreal the 5th at Night — fearing that May have Miscarried I herewith transmit a Triplicate. —

Having Considered that I may have Occasion to employ a Number of Indians upon different Excursions in the Course of the Fall, I am not desirous that you Should Send above 100 or 150 out of the Province, which, if well Chozen, I Should think will be Sufficient — I wish to keep some English Officers for the Above Purposes, and as Captain Fraser will have the Direction of the Indians going to Join the Five Nations, any other will not be necessary You will Send him Whatever Canadian Officer you May Judge fit, for his Assistance. —

Finding the Indian Presents Sent from England, were in good Order, I have forwarded the Whole to you, and as I Mentioned in a former Letter, You will distribute them as you and Colonel Johnson May have determined best for the King's Service

I am &c.

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

/Copy/ 1779

To Lieut. Col. Campbell

of the 9th September

(Copy)
Sir John Johnson

Quebec 9th Septr 1779 —

Sir, —

I have received your Letter of the 6th Instt Colonel Campbell must have Received a Duplicate of my Letter Sent, or intended to be Sent, the 2d Instant, by Mr Valentine, who arrived at Montreal last Sunday — So that I hope the Indians are now Collecting — I should imagine that 100, or 150 from this Province, to join the Mohawks would be Sufficient, particularly as I shall have Occasion for a Number to act upon different Excursions I may find necessary to have made from hence, for this Reason, it will be necessary that the Gentlemen you have proposed to Conduct the Indians, should remain likewise they being the only English Officers attached to that Department remaining, as I have ordered Captain Fraser to have the Direction of the Canada Indians under you with him, I should think one, or two Canadian Officers will be Sufficient, this Colonel Campbell will arrange — Before your Departure, I shall transmit to you the Orders you Require, they must necessarily be in very general Terms, and from the Opinion I have always conceived of your Zeal and Attachment, you need they being the only English Officers attached to that Department remaining, as I have ordered Captain Fraser to have the Direction of the Canada Indians under you with him, I should think one, or two Canadian Officers will be Sufficient, this Colonel Campbell will arrange — Before your Departure, I shall transmit to you the orders you Require, they must necessarily be in very general Terms, and from the Opinion I have always expressed of your Zeal and Attachment, you need not be under any apprehensions of their Being illiberal — Local Circumstances must determine your Conduct and if you should arrive time enough, I make no doubt you will be Successfull. I shall give the Qr. Mast. General Orders to Compleat your Detachment with every Necessary they may have Occasion for, & if possible those at Carleton Island, which will be Delivered to you at Sorel, or Montreal —

When you have Sufficiently reflected upon the disagreeable and even bad Consequences to the Service that must arise from Coming to Difficulties with Major Butler at this interesting Moment, particularly on a Subject in which Joseph is deeply Concerned, I am sure you will, for the present relinquish Your desire of demanding the Men inlisted for Your Corps, now Serving with the Rangers — You may depend upon every Justice being done to You when times will permit —

I transmitt to You a Warrant for the amount of Mr. Gasnells account, and have no objection to his accompanying You.

Should any of your Corps at Carleton Island be such Men as you wish to have with You, and that they are not materially necessary in Carrying on the Works, you may take them, leaving others in their Room —

The Works Carrying on at Sorel, La Chenaye, and Coteau du Lac are so essentially necessary that I must request you will not take from them any of the Artificers — their numbers are, at Sorel from 15 & 20 — & at the two Latter Places 23 — If you should be at a Loss to Compleat your Detachment without them, I should prefer diminishing the Number, rather than to take them from the Works. —

I am &c

La Chenaye, and Coteau du Lac are so essentially necessary that I must request you will not take from them any of the Artificers — their numbers are, at Sorel from 15 to 20 — & at the two Latter Places 23. — If you should be at a Loss to Compleat your Detachment without them, I should prefer diminishing the Numbers, rather than to take them from the Works. —

I am &c —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

/Copy/ 1779

To Sir John Johnson

of the 9th September

(Copy)

Quebec 9th Septr 1779

Sir

Confident of your warmest Inclinations for the Good of the King's Service, and anxious for your Success in the Enterprise You are about to undertake, as well for the happy Effect it may have in a Public View as for the Personal Honor You may acquire I am prompted to write You this Private Letter, to request of You that You will reflect how much depends upon the perfect Unanimity and happy understanding amongst all the Parties that will compose your little Army particularly that of the Six Nation Indian Department and Rangers — You are well acquainted with the Characters of Major Butler and his Son, the former deficient how much depends upon the perfect Unanimity and Happy understanding amongst all the Parties that will compose your little Army particularly that of the Six Nations Indian Department and Rangers — You are well acquainted with the Characters of Major Butler and his Son — the former deficient in Education and Liberal Sentiments — the latter conceited and petulant — Characters that require, I confeſs, much Patience to do Buſineſs with but I promise myself that You will employ your understanding, and Addreſs, in the Management of them — Major Butler has certainly acquired a great Share of Influence with the Five Nations he has long studied their Manners & disposition is poſseſsed of those Qualities necessary

to

Sir John Johnson.

to deal with them, and, if properly managed, may be made a most useful Agent among them – A little Attention wins his Heart – I need not tell You that, in some Cases, it is Virtue to make Personal Sacrifices, and I am sure You will think any You may have Occasion to make, well bestowed, if your *first Object* can be advanced by them.

Much has been lost upon former Occasions for want of Cordiality, of a mutual Acquiescence in Measures apparently, undeniably Proper, and for want of that Harmony which is the Life and Soul of Enterprize. I am the more desirous of expressing my Sentiments to You upon this Subject, as Major Butler and his Son having by the Successes fallen of a mutual Acquiescence in Measures apparently, undoubtedly Proper, and for want of that Harmony which is the Life and Soul of Enterprize. I am the more desirous of expressing my Sentiments to You upon this Subject, as Major Butler and his Son have, by the Success fallen in their Way, acquired great Credit at Home, and I have the Kings Orders to signify to them His Royal Approbation of their Conduct so that any Miscarriage which might happen in the course of Events, and that could possibly be attributed to a Misunderstanding between You, might too readily, be placed to your Account.

I shall inclose to You, under a flying Seal, the Letter I shall write to Major

46

Major Butler —

Wishing You Health and every possible Success — I remain with great Regard

Sir

Your most Obedient and most Humble Servant.

(signed) F. Haldimand.

(Private) 1779
To Sir John Johnson
9th Septr.

Copy

Quebec

Sir/

I have received your letter of the 9th Instant and am glad to find that matters are in such forwardness for your departure I hope you have not been disappointed in your Expectation of being in motion on Saturday last. I first intended the Detatchment of the 47th Regt to accompany you, but as it is probable that Colonel Bolton has sent off the Light Infantry Company of the 34th Regiment which was intended to reinforce Detroit, to Major Butlers assistance this Detatchment must proceed to Detroit they are however under your orders upon their March, and you will please to forward them with all Expedition. You may make your men some small Allowance of Rum going up the River, but it must cease at Carleton Island, The Expence of that Article is not to be credited, and the Rangers who will serve with you have never been allowed any, even their Officers decline the use of it in the Field. You will procure the necessary quantity proceed to Detroit. they are however under your orders upon their March, and you will please to forward them with all Expedition.

You may make your men some small Allowance of Rum going up the River, but it must cease at Carleton Island, the Expence of that Article is not to be credited, and the Rangers who will serve with you, have never been allowed any, even their Officers decline the use of it in the Field. You will procure the necessary quantity of this Article from the Kings Store at Montreal.

Your Idea of the Cannonades is a very good one, but I have not one to furnish you with. I have ordered for you one Grass Hopper, they are easily transported, but too small for reducing any place. they will however go thro' any Stockades the Rebels can have erected, but will not beat them down; if well directed they may do great execution.

I forward to you a Packet to Col. Bolton which you will be so good as forward by the first opportunity. Major Butlers letters you will Seal & have delivered after you have perused them.

I am Sir &c

Signed Fred: Haldimand

Sir John Johnson

Sir

Little David is returned from his Scout against the Oneidas without the wished-for Succeſs — The Miſsisaguais declared to a Man they woud not act against the Oneidas upon his informing them of his Design — He then went with them to Fort Stanwix but the Garrison there kept so close they coud get at none of them He then proposed to the Miſsisaguais to go down the Mohawk River till he coud meet with some of the Enemy; only three consented to accompany him — the rest deserted to Carleton Island — He with those took an Oneida Indian & a Negroe; the former they suffered to go about his busineſs declaring they knew him to be a neutral Indian, they then attacked a working party of nine Rebels at one Thompsons house, killed four & think all the others were wounded but it was so dark they coud only find one of them, whom out of compaſsion for his being wounded would not tye him & he has escaped—

Several Indians have past this Post this day, much alarmed with the Accounts of Colo Butlers Defeat by the Rebels— I hope measures will be taken in the Villages to prevent their despondency— I have wrote to Ensign Johnson on this Subject and also to Colo Campbell.

I have the honor to be
with great Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most obedient &
Most humble Servt.
W. Fraser

BRITISH MUSEUM

Oswegatchie 10th }
Septr. 1779 }

From 1779
Capt: Alexr. Fraser of the
Indian Department
Oswegatchee 10. Sepr. Recd. 15th.

Copy · Canawagoras Sepr. 10th 1779

Sir,

I received yours of the 6th inst. Yesterday, soon after I had dispatched Capt. Powell to Niagara. Its Contents please the Indians much, who I don't doubt will now aſsemble with the greater Alacrity for the Reinforcement you have sent. Many of the Rangers who were ill of the Ague and sent to Geneſsee River have since recovered so as to be able to do Duty again.

Kiangarachta is gone this Morning to meet the Chiefs at Geneſsee; all the Delawares are there, and are now determined to act, and from every appearance I have Hopes that the Indians will exert themselves with Spirit & Resolution. Capt. Brant is gone with Kiangarachta, there is a very good Understanding between them, and they concur with each other on every Occasion —

As all the Orders in my Account were drawn on Mr. Robison, I have since thought it best to endorse the Bills to him: I send them inclosed herein —

Capt. Butler with Rowland Montour and some other Indians is out about Canadaragoe & Canadasagoe watching the Motions of the Enemy. I expect some accounts from them to Day. I hope to be able with what Horses I can get from the Indians to have the Graſshoppers Ammunition &c. all brought up from the Lake by to morrow Night, should the Boats be arrived. I forgot to mention in my last that the Report of a Deserters having come to Mountour was false.

It is true that the Senecas can muster 500 Men, but you must consider that near one half of this Number lives on the Ohio, and are employed in defending their own Country, and can therefore give us no Aſsistance in this Quarter; and in Regard of the Rest of the five Nations, you know the Oneydas, and many of the Tuskaroras & Onandagoes are in the Rebel Interest.

Capt. Butler is come in this Evening; the Rebels left Canadasagoe Yesterday and will be at Canadaragoe to Night; if they advance we shall meet them in all Probability the Day after To-morrow.

Of the 150 Indians you mention to have fitted out, not more than Fifty have joined me, & great part of these I met at Canadasagoe.

I am, with Regard

Sir,

Your most humble Servant

Lt. Col. Bolton. (Signed) John Butler

11th. P. S. The Rebels came last Night to Canadaragoe. I have sent Horses &c. to the Lake but have as yet no Accounts of the Arrival of the Boats: I wish the Party may be able to reach this before the Enemy approach.

12th. In the Morning. The Enemy came last Night to a Village called the Snow-Town on the Road to Genesée about a days march from it. No News yet of the Boats or Reinforcement. We are just setting out, as the Indians intend to attack them before they reach Genessée.

Copy of a Letter from
Major Butler to Lt. Col.
Bolton dated the 10th. 11th.
& 12th. Sepr. 1779 —

Oswegatchee 11th Sepr 1779

Sir

I have the honor of Your Excellency's letter of the 3d Instant, and shall in consequence use every indeavour to collect as many Indians as possible in this quarter to accompany those from below, as the last intelligence from Major Butler seems to require that considerable reinforcements be sent to his Assistance. I hope, what your Excellency has been pleased to order will prevent most of the Rebels from ever getting back, as they have ventured to advance so far — The necessity of being sparing of provisions must be obvious to every person and my constant care shall be to attend to that.

I write this day to Sir John Johnson for his orders in case he may find me useful to him here or at Carleton Island in any manner before he gets up himself.

I have the honor to be
with all possible Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most obedient and
Most humble Servant
A. Fraser

From 1779

Captn. Alexr. Fraser

11th Septr. — Recd. 18th

(Copy) 1779.

To Col. Guy Johnson

of the 9th September

Cedars Landing Sept. 11th
1779. —

Sir

I am just honor'd with your Excellencys Letter of the 9th Inst, and I am particularly happy that the dispatch I have made is agreable, Infact I found it necessary from what occurred on my arrival at Montreal to purchase severals Articles which require time to be carried over, but as no time has been lost, I expect the Whole will be over the Carrying place tomorrow, so as to proceed imediately Many of the Indians of Caghnawaga & Canasadaga requested to accompany me imediately, but as Lt Col Campbells Officers were order'd to Collect them, I proceeded imediately with about 50. Mohocks, Onondags. Cayugaske & 20 White Men, & shall soon be Joyned by many More Indians, when I shall proceed agreable to your Excellencys wishes for the public service, at the same time I heartily wish (if reports are to be credited) that we may not be rather late, but at all Events I shall do my duty, and I am hopefull there are still resources. —

I have communicated to Miss Molly your Excellencys goodness for which She is extremely thankfull, and I believe she will be of great use to the Kings service at this time you may therefore be assured I shall furnish her in the manner you are pleased to Mention, but her anxiety to have her Children with her seems insurmountable, however I shall manage about it in the best manner in my power. —

I shall likewise pay due regard to what you say respecting the different Accots to pass thro' mine, and If I want Cash before they can be arranged, shall take the Liberty to draw for a Sum on a Temporary Warrant. —

His Excellency Genl. Haldimand &ca

The great hurry I was in when I last wrote, being surrounded by Indians has occasioned my Neglecting to acknowledge your Excellencys dispatch of the 30th August, which I hope you'll pardon. — I shall agreable thereto imediately Commission the Officers, and have already done so with some of the most usefull, it is certainly very necessary to them in most points of View, and will by incourageing them promote the Service, I shall also pay due regard to whats you mention about Mr. McKee, who at present cannot be at his proper Station towards Ohio. —

I have left directions for the Expediting Part of the Indian Goods that came from England, as fast as possible after me, and I am with great respect.

Sir, Your Excellencys
most Obedient & most
Humble Servant

G Johnson

From 1779.
Coll. Guy Johnson
11th Septr. Recd. 18th.

East end L. St Francis Sepr 16. 1779.
11. A.M.

Sir,

Your Excellency will have heard of the intelligence from Capt. Frazer which came to my Camp at 3 o'Clock this Morning — by the best accounts, particularly that of an Intelligent man from Oswegatchy, the Party consists of about 45 Indians mostly Oneidas, a few White Men & two Boston Officers, however the party at the Long Sault have retired before to this end of it & the Officer with the Cloathing of the 8th & one of Lt Col. Campbells Officers have returned back a little; Their force being I presume unequal to that of the Enemy, I shall take them with me, & doubt not giving your Excellency a good account of the Rebels if they are not too nimble for one whose Abilities are not in his Heels, ——

I have the Honor to be most respectfully
Sir, Your Excellency's most
Obedient humble Servt
J Johnson

To His Excellcy
General Haldimand. &c

(Copy)

Meſsage of David a Mohawk Indian, adreſsed to His Excellency General Haldimand

Brother

The Six Nations have been long threatned by the Rebels, & they have for these three Years past, been running a Race against Numbers of fresh antagonists, they are now almost out of Breath, and much tir'd without You send some Strong Body to their Relief. —

Brother, — We have Long looked for this Aſsistance, and Your having often promised to send it, has made us Almost exhaust ourselves by our Exertions — the time is now at hand when we Shall See Whether You are our Loving and Strong Brother, or Whether you deceive us. —

Brother, We are Still Strong for the King of England, and we will lose our Lives Chearfully for him if you will Shew us he is a Man of his Word, & that he will not abandon his Brother the Six Nations who Always Shed their Blood for him. —

Brother, — Our Brothers the Seven Villages of Canada Say you hinder them from Coming to our Relief, and it is hard, Brother, it is very hard that you Even keep the few Mohawks which went to Canada from us, when one Single Warrior is of great consequence to us — Courage, Brother, be firm and we will yet get the better of all Our Enemies. —

Carleton Island 22d. August 1779. —

Copy

Meſsage of David, a Mohawk Chief, adreſsed to His Excellency General Haldimand, dated Carleton Island the 22d. Augt. 79

In Govr. Haldimand's Lr of 13. Septr. 1779 (No. 29)

(6)

103

Lachine 15th Sept. 1777

Sir

I have received your Excellency's letter of the 9th Instant by Colonel Campbell [illegible] the Indians of the Villages, and I believe they are all prepared for the expedition, and will immediately Conform to every of your last Orders [illegible]

I am pleased to hear that Captain Fraser is to take the Command of the Indians from this Country, and should have been very happy to have had the other Gentlemen mentioned, but if the Number of Indians are to be no greater than your Excellency Writes me, there will be the less Room for them. I can assure your Excellency that nothing is so far from my thoughts as to [illegible] them coming to any difficulties with Major Butler or any Person going upon the same Service with me, and therefore, trust my just and reasonable

Demands may give umbrage to such persons as
are concerned. I shall for the present relinquish
my Claims in full expectation of receiving them
soon at the end of the Campaign—

I have a few men taken from the Works
at the different places mentioned by your Excellency
should there be any from ours, I shall order them
Back upon the Works being Numbers too few—

I am sorry to inform you that near a third of
the Detachment of my own Regiment, and without
Arms, which had been entirely unequipped with the
other Arms I had here, I Demanded them in Montreal
but was refused them I must therefore beg your
Excellency would Order fifty bright Stand with
every thing necessary for them to be forwarded after
me, as they may be wanted before we get to Carleton
Island— the Men remaining have scarcely a Gun
fit for Service— your Excellency will therefore see the
Necessity of Ordering the Arms Agreeable to the return

[illegible] the Chasseurs set off yesterday &
the 34th this morning, the Artillery and the 27th will go
off tomorrow, and my corps move the day following if
boats are provided, which is not certain at present. —

I was obliged to Indulge the Rangers by letting them
take ten men in each Boat and only fifteen Barrels
as they would otherwise delay the whole command
the rest have observed your Excellency's orders in
taking the usual quantity — I shall wait for
Returns of ye Post by which time I hope the three
first Detachments will be over the Lakes. —

As the Enemy have fortified themselves in the
Indian Country, it would be impossible to make any impression
on them, without proper Artillery for the purpose,
which, I believe, may be conveyed chiefly by Water
there being only about Eight miles of Land Carriage —

I have the honor to be
with great regard
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient Humble Servant
John Johnson

Illness prevents me from
Answering your Excellency's
other Letters at this time.

Gram 1779

Ltl Sir John Johnson

of the 13th Sepr. Recd 15th

driven for Subsistence into the interior Parts of the Country. Major Butlers Rangers & the Indians, have been Constantly employed Since the Begining of the Campaign, and have Effected many good Strokes. Scouts from this Province towards the Enemys Frontiers have likewise been Continually employed, and have Rendered essential Services. —

Since I Received the Inclosed Letters from the Indian Country, I had an Opportunity of writing to Sir Henry Clinton. I Communicated their Contents to him, and at the same time forwarded to him a Letter for General Washington upon the Subject of the Cruel Treatment Shewn to Lt. Governor Hamilton, and the Prisoners with him, together with the Extract of a Letter from Major Butler. Copies of which I transmit for Your Lordships Perusal

...ment of Lt. Gov.
Sir H. Clinton
Washington
Subject

I have the Hon.r to be &c. —
(Signed) F. H. —

Lord George Germain
(No. 30.)
by the Brilliant

My Lord

Quebec 13th. Sept.r 1779.

As there are in the Neighbouring Colonies, Mostly attached to Hazens Corps, Stationed on the Connecticut River, and employed in Cutting the Road to Lake Champlain, about 200 — Canadians, who accompanied the Rebels in their Retreat out of the

(No. 30.)

by the Brilliant

[illegible] of a
to be offered
[illegible] Canadians
[illegible] Corps

My Lord   Quebec 13th Septr. 1779.

As there are in the Neighbouring Colonies, Mostly attached to Hazen's Corps, Stationed on the Connecticut River, and employed in Cutting the Road to Lake Champlain, about 200 Canadians, who accompanied the Rebels in their Retreat out of the Country, or that have Joined them Since, and often find means to procure Intelligence from hence, it will be worth Considering, Whether an Offer of His Majesty's Most Gracious Pardon, to those misguided People, provided they Return within a Certain Time, might not be a Means to detach them from the Rebel Interests and restore them to their Allegiance; This measure Might have a Good Effect upon the Body of the People, and furnish us with the means, of obtaining More Certain Information of the favourers of Rebellion within the Province, Whose Cabals and Intrigues are Extremely prejudicial to the Royal Cause.

But as by My Instructions, I am noways Authorised, to Grant Such a Pardon, it is humbly Submitted to the Consideration of administration, Whether It would not be right, Such a Power was Lodged with the King's Governor, at least while the Colonies continued in Rebellion, which, after all, it Might be depended on would not be Carried into Execution, but upon the fullest Conviction the Measure was likely to answer the End proposed

I have the Honor to be &c.

(Signed) F. H.

Lord George Germain

(No. 31)

by the Brilliant

Quebec 12th Septr 1779

My Lord!

Alarming Situation of the Upper Posts

I have this Moment Received an Express from Major Nairn, Commanding at Carleton Island, inclosing a Copy of a Letter from Lieut Colonel Bolton, which I Send for Your Lordships Information of the Situation Affairs are in, in the upper Country, which unless the arrival of Sir John Johnson's Reinforcement give a fortunate turn to, will, I much fear terminate very fatally — Every Assistance in My Power to give, I have already informed Your Lordship has been afforded — & that, not without Much Risk, and Inconvenience to this Part of the Province. —

[illegible] Opportunity I have received

Johnson's Reinforcement give a fortunate turn to, will, I much fear terminate very fatally — Every assistance in my Power to give, I have already informed Your Lordship has been afforded — & that, not without much Risk, and Inconvenience to this Part of the Province. —

Effects of the Count d'Estaing's declaration

By the same Opportunity I have received accounts from Detroit, Confirming the Slackness of the — Indians, & the Defection of Many of the Inhabitants in that Quarter. I inclose to Your Lordship a Declaration of Count D'Estaing, which was sent me from Detroit Copies of which are Distributed all through the Illinois & Miami Country, and which have had a very bad Effect amongst the French & Indians there. —

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) F. H. —

rd George Germain
(No. 32)
y the Brilliant

Quebec 13th Septr 1779.

My Lord

I have the Honor of Your Lordships Letter No. 18., The many Letters you will by this opportunity Receive from me upon the different Subjects it contains, leaves me but little to add here. ——

I am pleased that You Received my Letters by the October Fleet, and Particularly happy to know from Your Lordship, that my humble Endeavours to Secure this Province, and to promote His Majestys Interests, have met with His Royal approbation. ——

Creek

The Enterprize to Otter Creek, had the Success and — Consequences your Lordship expected, if a Triplicate, which Contained an account of it, Sent by the Retrieve last June, Should have Shared the Fate of my Two former Dispatches, a Quadruplicate, which accompanies this, will, I hope, reach Your Lordship. —

Sir Henry Clinton's information, Mentioned by Your Lordship, Came Safe to me, and the Rebels having penetrated into the Indian Country, has Confirmed his Suspicions of that time — my Letters will inform Your Lordship of their Progress, and how far we have to depend upon the Indians (some for want of inclinations, and others of abilities) to Stop it. —

I have Received His Majestys Commission for Joseph Brant, and Your Lordship observes, very Justly, that his Conduct Merits the Indian Country, has confirmd his suspicions of that time — my Letters will inform Your Lordship of their Progress, and how far we have to depend upon the Indians (some for want of inclinations, and others of abilities) to Stop it. —

mmission for
ph Brant

I have Received His Majesty's Commission for Joseph Brant, and Your Lordship observes, very Justly, that his Conduct merits every Mark of our attention and Regard; but Joseph's Situation amongst the Six Nation Indians, is very different from the Idea those who are not acquainted with it, must from his Superior Talents conceive. To Speak in their Stile, he has been but very Lately known in the War Path — He is now distinguishing himself in that Line, but it will be some time before he is acknowledged by them even upon a footing with very many of (as they Conceive) more experienced and greater Warriors — besides, the Notice that has been taken of him by us, in Consequence of his Connection with Sir William Johnson — His being Civilized, and more Particularly, for his good Services, has, from a Jealousy predominant in Indians, procured him as many Enemies of his own People, as friends with us — of this number is Schenderatchta King of the Senecas, and by many Degrees the most leading, and the man of most Consequence and Influence in the Whole Six Nations

and by whose Interest and Intrigues Major Butler has been able to Carr
through Many Essential Points — He is brave, prudent, and perfectly
attached to Government, More Strongly So, Since the alliance with
the French, to whom he has a Most unconquerable aversion —
Were So great a Mark of Distinction, as is proposed for Joseph,
to Pass here, it Might, and I am Sure it would be productive of
very dangerous Consequences, for which Reason, I must take it upon me
to Suppress the Commission, and likewise the Pictures, until I learn
His Majesty's further Pleasure, I Should hope this Affair has not
been So Publickly Mentioned at Home, as to reach Josephs Knowledge
which from the Part I find necessary to adopt would equally prejudice
the Service. Every favor and attention in my Power, Joseph has
experienced, and always Shall — but for the above Reasons, I am
Obliged to do it with address. — His Sister, who lived Many Years
with Sir William Johnson, by whom he had Many Children, and t
whose Influence he was Much indebted in his Successfull Management
of the Six Nations, was driven from her home, and with her family
took Refuge at Niagara two Years ago — Her Situation there not
being So Comfortable as Could be wished, She brought her Family down t
Montreal, by my desire, where I Settled her & her Sister Jackson,

Mary Brant
his Sister
her Merits

her Merits)

whose Influence he was much indebted in his Succesfull Management of the Six Nations, was driven from her home, and with her family took Refuge at Niagara two Years ago — Her Situation there not being So Comfortable as Could be wished, She brought her Family down to Montreal, by my desire, where I Settled her to her Satisfaction, but upon her hearing of the Rebels advancing into the Indian Country, thinking She Might be of use in encouraging the Indians to Preserve their Fidelity, She Returned to Niagara — the Care of this Woman will necessarily be attended with Some Expence to Government, but whatever May be done for her, is due to the Memory of Sir Willm. Johnson, to Her Services, and will be a handsome Mark of attention to Joseph. — I shall Signify His Majestys approbation of Major and Captn. Butlers Conduct to them.

Communication by the Kenebec River impracticable

I am Sorry, in answer to a Part of Your Lordships Letter, to observe to You that, the Detachment of Troops and Indians I have been under a Necessity of Making from the very inconsiderable Force in this Province will Render the Communication hoped to be Effected from hence by the Kenebeck River, impracticable — I have not Yet heard that any Establishment has been made upon that River — If I Should be informed of it for the Purpose of — Co-operating, the very little Assistance in My Power to give Shall be punctually Afforded. In all Events, I purpose Sending Scouts that way, and to the different frontiers, as Soon as the Crop is gathered in, to destroy their Corn &ca which will be more Effectually, & more easily executed when in the Barns than at Present —

ian Presents, arms
munition

The Presents, arms, and amunition for the Indians arrived the 2d. Instant, and were immediatly Forwarded to Montreal, to be Sent upwards where they are much Wanted. — The Cloathing Sent for the Provincials has, upon Variety of Occasions been very Serviceable, but the Scarcity of Provisions has hitherto prevented my doing any thing in Regard to forming Canadian Corps, for which your Lordship has directed they should be appropriated; — I purpose making a Trial of what is to be done after the arrival of the Fall Fleet, if a good Stock of Provision should arrive

rovincial Cloathing
rived

mpany of
nau Chasseurs
rived

The Company of Hanau Chasseurs are arrived, they are like the others, raw, undisciplined Troops, and So far from being experienced Woods and Marks Men, as they are in General Conceived to be, there are perhaps a few in each Company who may be Considered as Such, the rest are, in both Respects far inferior to the Worst of our Troops who have been any time in this Country. I Cannot help

Company of
Hanau Chasseurs
ment

little use they
in General are

The Company of Hanau Chasseurs are also as they are
like the others, raw, undisciplined Troops, and so far from being
experienced Woods and Marks Men, as they are in General conceived to
be, there are perhaps a few in each Company who may be considered
as such, the rest are, in both Respects far inferior to the Worst
of our Troops who have been any time in this Country. I cannot help
here observing to Your Lordship, the very Little use these Troops are,
in General in this Province, they are Lazy and inactive, unwilling
to Work (which here constitutes the greatest part of a Soldier's
Duty) and Cavil at every Little Extraordinary, or what appears
to them, Extraordinary Duty — and so prone are they to Desertion,
that I dare not trust them at any of the Frontier Posts of the
Country, they contrive to Escape in Numbers, but in General
they have been apprehended — they are induced to Desert, from the
Hopes of Making their Way to their Countrymen settled in Pensilvania
2 and many other Parts of this Continent, from whence, by
means of Rebel Emissaries, they receive the greatest Encouragement
— They are Treated with every attention, and have the
same Indulgences shewn to the British Troops, and have —

infinitely less Fatigue, from their Situations where Little, or no Work is Carrying on —

Inhabitants of Vermont

I Shall use all Possible means to Effect His Majesty's wishes in Reclaiming the Inhabitants of Vermont — but I fear there is little Hope of Success — They are a profligate Banditti, and are now become desperate — I have Some Prisoners from thence, and Shall, thro' them, endeavour to Effect Something

I have the Honor to be with the greatest
Respect and Regard
My Lord
Your Lordships most Obedient
and most humble Servant. —
(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

No 18

Chs. Jenkenson Esqr.
Secretary at War

Quebec Sept. 18th 1779.

Sir.

arrival of the 3 Brothers Storeship

I am favoured with Your Letter of the 12th April, with the enclosures, and have the Pleasure of informing You that the three Brothers arrived Safe, most of the Packag are already Shipped for Montreal without being opened, therefore I cannot exactly ascer

Secretary at War

Quebec Sept.r 18th 1779.

Sir,

arrival of the 3 Brothers's Storeship

I am favoured with Your Letter of the 12th April, with the enclosures, and hav
the Pleasure of informing You that the three Brothers arrived Safe, most of the Packag
are already shipped for Montreal without being opened, therefore I cannot exactly asce
=tain the State they arrived in, but I have no Complaints respecting them. —

I request you will inform His Majesty that I think my Self highly honour
with the Confidence placed in me, by having Capt.n Gamble's local Promotion Sub
=mitted to my Consideration: such Power I can only merit by exerting it for
the Public Service, and as it appears to me, that the Publication of such a
Commission, could afford no immediate advantage to Capt.n Gamble, at the sa
time it would create discontents amongst a number of Senior Captains now in thi
Country, who have the same Merit, and longer Services to plead in their Favo
I have not yet delivered the Commission, nor inserted the Promotion in Publi
Orders, and I shall defer doing either as long as I find it advantageous
for His Majesty's Service. ——

Major Gamble Local Promotion

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Fred: Haldiman

had an opportunity of writing to Sir Henry Clinton. I communicated their contents to him and at the same time forwarded to him a letter for General Washington upon the subject of the cruel treatment shown to Lieut.-Governor Hamilton and the prisoners taken with him, together with an extract of a letter from Major Butler, copies of which [Vol. XVI, No. 1013i, v-vi] I transmit for your lordship's perusal. *Signed.* [C.O.42/39, fo. 234]

CV

Governor Frederick Haldimand to Lord George Germain (No. 32)

13 September, Quebec
My Lord, I have the honour of your lordship's letter (No. 14) [Vol. XVI, No. 414]. The many letters you will by this opportunity receive from me upon the different subjects it contains leaves me but little to add here.

I am pleased that you received my letters by the October fleet and particularly happy to learn from your lordship that my humble endeavours to secure this province and to promote His Majesty's interests have met with his royal approbation.

The enterprise to Otter Creek had the success and consequences your lordship expected. If a triplicate which contained an account of it, sent by the *Retrieve* last June, should have shared the fate of my two former dispatches, a quadruplicate [*not found*] which accompanies this will I hope reach your lordship.

Sir Henry Clinton's information mentioned by your lordship came safe to me, and the rebels having penetrated into the Indian country has confirmed his suspicion of that time. My letters will inform your lordship of their progress and how far we have to depend upon the Indians (some for want of inclinations and others of abilities) to stop it. I have received His Majesty's commission for Joseph Brant and your lordship very justly observes his conduct merits every mark of attention and regard. But Joseph's situation amongst the Six Nation Indians is very different from the idea those who are not acquainted with it must, from his superior talents, conceive. To speak in the Indian style, Joseph has been but very lately known upon the warpath. He is now distinguishing himself in that line but it will be some time before he is acknowledged by them even upon a footing with many of (as they conceive) [the] more experienced and greater warriors. Besides, the notice that has been taken of him by the English in consequence of his connection with Sir William Johnson, his being civilized, and more particularly for his services, has from a jealousy predominant in Indians procured him as many enemies amongst them as friends with us. Of this number is Schenderachta, king of the Senicas and by many degrees the most leading and the man of greatest influence in the whole Six Nations, by whose interest and intrigues Major Butler has been able to carry through many essential points. He is brave, prudent, and perfectly attached to government, more strongly so since the alliance with the French to whom he has a most unconquerable aversion. Were so distinguished a mark of favour as is proposed for

Joseph to pass him, it might and I am certain it would be productive of very dangerous consequences, for which reason I must take upon me to suppress the commission until I learn His Majesty's further pleasure and likewise defer sending the prints of him into the Indian country. I should hope this affair has not been so publicly talked of at home as to have it reach Joseph's knowledge, which from the part I find necessary to adopt would equally prejudice the service. Joseph's sister who lived many years with Sir William Johnson, by whom he had many children and in whom he had the utmost confidence, having by her influence materially assisted him in his success in the management of the Indians, was with her family driven from home two years ago and took refuge at Niagara. Her accommodations there not being so comfortable as could be wished, she accepted of an offer I made of settling her at or near to Montreal and accordingly brought her family down; but upon the late alarming accounts from the Indian country she immediately set out for Niagara, thinking it may be in her power to be useful in keeping up the spirits of the Indians and preventing them from coming to terms with the rebels. The charge of this family may turn out a little expensive but it is really due to the memory of Sir William, to the woman's zeal and services, and it is a handsome mark of attention to Joseph.

I shall signify His Majesty's approbation of the conduct of Major and Captain Butler to them.

I am sorry in answer to one part of your lordship's letter to observe to you that the detachment of troops and Indians I have been under a necessity of sending from the very inconsiderable force in this province will render the communication hoped to be effected from hence by the Kenebeck River impracticable. I have not yet heard that any establishment has been made upon that river; if I should be informed of it for the purpose of cooperating, the very little assistance in my power to give shall be punctually afforded. In all events I purpose sending scouts that way and to the different frontiers, as soon as the crop is gathered in, to destroy their corn etc., which will be more effectually and more easily executed when in the barns than at present.

The presents, arms and ammunition for the Indians arrived the 2nd instant and were immediately forwarded to Montreal to be sent to the Indian country where they are much wanted. The clothing sent out for provincials has upon variety of occasions been very serviceable, but the scarcity of provisions has hitherto prevented my doing anything in regard to forming Canadian corps for which your lordship has directed they should be appropriated.

The company of Hanau chasseurs are arrived. They are like the others, raw, undisciplined recruits, and so far from being experienced woods- and marks-men (as they are in general considered to be) there are perhaps a few in each company who may be considered as such; the rest are in both respects far inferior to the worst of our troops who have been any time in this country. I cannot help here observing to your lordship the very little use these troops are in general in this province. They are lazy and inactive, unwilling to work which here constitutes the greatest part of a soldier's duty, and cavil at every little extraordinary or what appears to them extraordinary duty, and so prone are they to desertion that I dare not trust them at any of the frontier posts. Even from the interior parts of the country they contrive to escape in numbers but in general they have been apprehended. They are induced to desert from the hopes of making their way to their countrymen settled in Pennsylvania and many other parts of this continent, from whence by means of rebel emissaries they receive the greatest encouragement. They are treated with every attention and have the same indulgences shown to the British troops, and have infinitely less fatigue from their situations where little or no work is carrying on.

No pains on my part shall be wanting towards effecting His Majesty's wishes in reclaiming the inhabitants of Vermont although I fear there is little hope of success. They are in general a profligate banditti, totally without principle and now become desperate. I have some of them prisoners and through them shall attempt to undertake something.

After the arrival of the fall fleet, that I can know my situation in regard to provision etc., I purpose making a trial of raising some Canadians. I confess my expectations of success are not very sanguine, I wish I may be agreeably disappointed. *Signed.* [C.O.42/39, fo. 259]

CVI

Governor Frederick Haldimand to Lord George Germain
(Secret and Confidential)

14 September, Quebec

My Lord, in the present state of affairs I think it my duty to lay before His Majesty's confidential servants for the royal information my opinion of all matters which may tend to securing this more than ever important province to the Crown of Great Britain. I shall do it with freedom and candour unbiased by passion, party or prejudice, and if any ideas here offered should prove serviceable to His Majesty's interests my sanguine purpose will be fully answered.

The actual state of the province is the first point to be attended to. By recent intelligence the rebels are advancing in force into the country of the Six Nations; they fortify posts at convenient distances as they advance and seem determined to oblige them, who have been hitherto (a few excepted) staunch friends to government, to embrace a neutrality. Should these be forced to quit upon this occasion and from their weakness, as well as our inability to support them from the difficulty of pushing up provisions, be obliged to come into the terms of the rebellious colonies, Niagara, the upper country, and fur trade will soon go.

If the body of rebels said to be commanded by Sullivan, to have artillery, a corps of sappers and miners, should lay siege to Niagara and take it, they will most probably soon draw into their interests all the upper country Indians and presently make use of them to retaliate upon the King's loyal subjects the cruelties they pretend to have been exercised upon themselves. Their confining Lieut.-Governor Hamil-

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1779

Mr. [Daniel of St. Thomas] Jenifer, a delegate from the State of Maryland, attended, and took his seat in Congress.

A memorial of the proprietors of a tract of land called Indiana, signed on behalf of the proprietors, and as their agent, by George Morgan, was read, stating

That on the 3d day of November, 1768, at a general congress with the Six Nations and other Indians, held at Fort Stanwix, in consideration of the sum of £85,916 10 8, the amount of the value of the damages sustained by the traders, the said Six United and Independent Nations, the true and absolute owners and proprietors, did grant a tract of land called Indiana, described as follows, viz. Beginning at the southerly side of the mouth of Little Kenhawa creek, where it empties itself into the river Ohio, and running from thence south east to the Laurel Hill, thence along the Laurel Hill until it strikes the river Monongahela, thence down the stream of the said river Monongahela, according to the several courses thereof, to the southern boundary line of the province of Pensylvania, thence westerly along the course of the said province boundary line, as far as the same shall extend, and from thence by the same course to the river Ohio, thence down the said river Ohio, according to the several courses thereof, to the place of beginning: that the said tract of land, thus obtained for so valuable a consideration, and with every circumstance of notoriety and authority that can give validity to any grant, was afterwards (as being included within the bounds of a larger tract of land called Vandalia,) by order of the king of Great Britain in council, before the declaration of the independency of these United States, separated from the dominion which, in right of the crown, Virginia claimed over it. And therefore the memorialists are advised, that the said tract of country cannot remain subject to the jurisdiction of Virginia or any particular state, but of the whole United States in Congress assembled: that some acts of the State of Virginia, directing the sale of the lands in question, to commence in October next, for the particular benefit of that State, seem intended to prevent and defeat the interposition of Congress, and therefore praying this honourable House to take the distressed case of the memorialists into speedy consideration, and that such order may be directed as may be thought proper to stay Virginia in the sale of the lands in question, till Virginia, as well as the memorialists, can be heard before this honourable House, and the whole rights of the owners of the tract of land called Vandalia, of which Indiana is a part, shall be ascertained in such a manner as may tend to support the sovereignty of the United States and the just rights of individuals therein.

Also a memorial of William Trent, in behalf of Thomas Walpole and his associates, claiming a right to the tract of land called Vandalia, was read.[1]

A motion was made by Mr. [Nathaniel] Scudder, seconded by Mr. [John] Fell, that the first memorial, signed by George Morgan, be referred to a committee.

On which the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Nathaniel] Scudder,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Langdon,	no	no
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Gerry,	no	no
Holten,	ay	
Partridge,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Marchant,	ay	ay
Collins,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Root,	ay	ay
Spencer,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Jay,	no	div.
Lewis,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Scudder,	ay	ay
Fell,	ay	
Houston,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Shippen,	ay	ay
Atlee,	ay	
Searle,	ay	
Muhlenberg,	ay	
Delaware,		
Mr. Dickinson,	ay	ay
M'Kean,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Carmichael,	ay	ay
Forbes,	ay	
Jenifer,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Smith,	no	no
Griffin,	no	
Fleming,	no	
Mercer,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Harnett,	no	no
Sharpe,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Laurens,	no	no
Mathews,	no	

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[1] This memorial, dated September 11, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 41, X, folio 79.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, That the committee consist of five.

Adjourned to 10 oClock to Morrow.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1779.

The delegates of North Carolina laid before Congress a letter from Brigadier General Hogan, which was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of War.

A letter, of this day, from the hon^{ble} Sieur Gérard, minister plenipotentiary of France, was read, desiring, in the course of this week, an audience, in order that he may take his leave:[1]

Resolved, That Friday next be assigned for granting a private audience to the hon^{ble} Sieur Gerard, minister plenipotentiary of France, in order to his taking leave.

Resolved, That this private audience be in full Congress.

Another letter, of this day, from the said Minister Plenipotentiary, was read, informing that "he has constituted the Sieur James Wilson advocate general of the French nation, in order that he may be charged with all the causes and matters relative to navigation and commerce."

A letter, of 5, from J. Wadsworth, commissary general, to the committee of Congress appointed to superintend that department, was read:[2]

Ordered, That it be referred back to the said committee.

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report; Whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant issue on the treasurer, in favour of Mr. [John] Jay, one of the delegates for the State of New York, on his application, for three thousand dollars; for which the said State is to be accountable.

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[1] This letter is printed in the *Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution* (Wharton), III, 315.

[2] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 78, XXIV, folio 79.

From 1779
Lt. Col. Campbell
12th. Augt. Recd. 14th.

160.

Lachine the 16th Septr 1779

Sir

I recd the favour of your Letter of the 14th Inst hear to this place about an hour agoe — Please to acquaint his Excellency the Commander in Chief that I am come here this day to push on the Indns of Caughniwaga — they will Be I think about sixty in number, that those of the Lake were to Sett out this day about one hundred & twenty from the three villages, and when I know the number that goe from St Regis I will Report to the Genl the number of the whole — That I have Been Six days Betwen

Captn R. Mathews

Copy

the —

Between the Sault and Lake
and Could not gett them to move
Before now ———
I am

Sir
your most obedient
and most humble Servt
John Campbell

BRITISH MUSEUM

Captn R Mathews
Head Quarters

From Δ (1779

Lieut. Col. Campbell

16th Septr — Recd. 18th.

Niagara Sept. 16th 1779 218

Sir

I enclose your Excellency an Account of Expences incurred on Major Butlers Expedition, also one of the Naval Department in this Lake from 11th of Decr. 1778 to the 24th of May 1779, which owing to the Terms and Regulations were not settled untill Captain Schanks return to Carleton Island — Captain Robinson has been a long time out of his money and is now paying Interest for the Amount of his Acct., I therefore hope you will order it to be discharged as soon as it arrives. The last Article being for repairs done to the Angelica, and which Mr. Coleman has certified, Captain Schanks objected to, because it was not entered in Captain Grants Accounts as the Vessel belonged to Lake Erie, but as the Naval Acct. of this Lake was sent here before I was acquainted with this matter, I have ordered it to be charged in Mr. Robinsons Account — From Mr. Colemans report to me the Angelica would not have been of the least Service this Summer without repairs I therefore ordered him with some of his men to put her in a Condition to navigate the Lakes, which I am convinced was for the good of the Service — I enclose your Excellency Mr. Flemings letter to Captain Lernoult concerning the men forwarded to Detroit (by mistake), also Copies of Letters from Major Butler, which will inform you of 4000 Rebels being encamped at Genesea within 70 or 80 miles of this Post. Maxwell I am informed commands 1500 or 2000 men at Venango, and has sent Strong Detachments up the Allegany and to Le Beuf. The Haldimand I have ordered to the Landing to bring down 40 Battoe loads of Merchants goods, and have sent orders to the Officers commanding at Forts Erie and Schlosser to hold themselves in readiness to join this Garrison at a moments warning. I expect daily the Detachments from Detroit, and hope the next Vessels will bring a Reinforcement from Carleton Island. The Rebels have destroyed most of the Indian Villages and Corn Fields, therefore I wish soon to see their Families come in, otherwise I shall give over all hopes of their assistance any longer, they are extremely dissatisfied that Troops were not sent to Oswego or to this Post, notwithstanding all that Major Butler, [illegible], and Joseph can say or do to keep them in temper. I have sent Orders to the Major upon no acc.t to suffer his Retreat to be cut off, nor to risk the Light Infantry Companies of the Kings or 34 Regiment, which would be no small loss to this Garrison. Captain [illegible] has also received private instructions how he is to act, as I have very little dependence on the Indians. Our Works are almost finished, and I have no doubt will be defended with Spirit notwith-standing our weak Garrison. by the last accounts the Rangers have not more than 150 men fit for duty, and we have 40 Sick in this Garrison

I am with great Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Obliged Humble Servant
Mason Bolton.

His Excellency General Haldimand

Sep.r 17th.

(Joseph Brant (who upon all Occasions deserves every thing I can say in his

Enemy is just arrived and informs me that a considerable number of Indians
with their Families are coming in to Niagara, Sayenqueraghta is with them, and
has behaved extremely well; I could wish some handsome present was made
to him as he has great weight with the Six Nations, Joseph sometime ago was
not upon the best terms with him, they had their quarrels like other great men
however they are now perfectly reconciled and determined to return in a
day or two to take ample Revenge. Major Butler is also under the necessity
of coming in with the Light Infantry and ~~[illegible]~~ Rangers for want of
Provisions, but leaves a party with several Scouts to watch the Enemys
motions — I am informed the Major has received Letters acquainting
him, that Colonel Guy Johnson will certainly come to Niagara, in that case
if they should apply to me for leave to go to Montreal I believe you will
think it right not to refuse him —

This Evening Lieut. Glennie, in a Boat arrived here ~~[illegible]~~ from
Carleton Island, and has delivered me your Excellency's letters but as the Haldimand
is ready to sail, and Sir John Johnson with the Troops may be at Carleton
Island I thought it best not to detain her a moment, The Seneca and the
New Vessel are also before this time at that Island, so that I hope soon to see
them there — The Rebels have done all the Mischief they can, therefore can
not remain long in the Indian Country, unless they intend to attack this Post
which I believe they will scarce ~~venture~~ attempt without getting a Supply of
Cannon & Provisions by the way of Oswego or Presqu'isle, but without
an Enemys Approach I can now plainly foresee I shall have many difficulties
to encounter for the Indians are extremely attached to Major Butler

permission Sir be assured I shall do my utmost for the Kings Service — I hope your Excellency will have no objections to my sending Lieut. Glenie back to Canada, for this is no time to hold General Courts Martial — I have sent down to Montreal Lieut. Colonel Stacy and Lieut. Holden as the Indians are extremely enraged, they have been Prisoners here since the affair of Cherry Valley and in my opinion should not be exchanged for some time —

From — No 1 — 1779
Lieut. Col. Bolton of the
16th & 17th Septr. Recd. 3d. Octr.

Extract Sent Lord George & —
Sir H: Clinton —

2 Miles further where the Party encamped.

Thursday 16th. at 9 A.M. a Boat arrived Express from Oswegatchie with a
Corp.l & Party & Mr. Reaume who bro.t a Letter informing that a
3 Leagues below Oswegatchie some Boats ascending had discover'd
a Scouting Party of Oneydas who were thereabouts to the Num
ber of 40 with 2 Rebel Capt.s Bear. It was said they intended
to Strike a Blow at the long Saut. — Col.o Johnson forwar
the Intelligence & wrote to the Gen.l abo.t it. He also acquain
the Indians with the News & s.d he had some Hopes that the
Enemy might be surprized. The Indians thanked him for
his Intelligence & s.d it was doubtless the great Spirit who
given them timely Notice of their Danger. — Col.o John
gave out 7 Stand of Arms & Amm.n to those who wanted it and
proceeded ab.t Noon in 3 Div.ns 4 Boats abreast thro' Lake St
Francis, & encamped at ½ past 5 P.M. at P.t Bodet.

Friday 17th. In Consequence of some Rumours made by the Interpreter Deha
[illegible] with them desir'd a Meeting. he talk'd much of the Necessity
according to ancient Custom of calling at St. Regis & express'd himself
as if Col.o Johnson was much averse to it. he therefore hoped he said th
if he did not call, he would send a Messenger to inquire into the St
of Things there. — Col.o Johnson set them Right, told them he
should call there or in its Neighbourhood but that it was no

Time now to delay in passing thro' Old Forms tho' he was well acqua
ted with them all & wou'd never neglect the most essential of them;
but that this Village with Cachnawaga & Canasadaga were imm
diately under Direction of the Gen^{l}. who had Officers to take Care of
them: that he had pointed out Carleton Island as the Place of
Rendezvous where Col^{o}. Johnson shou'd then Comm^{d}. them all &
attend to their Respective Matters, wishing them to use Activity
& Dispatch: — At 11 A.M. Embark'd & proceeded to the W. E
of the Lake where he was met by 6 Aughquisasnes who were sent
by their Chiefs to entreat him to visit their Castle which he
promis'd to do & soon after encamp'd.

Saturday 18th.. A little after 6 A.M. embark'd & proceeded to St. Regis where
he arrived at ½ past 11 & was saluted with Cannon, small Arms &
received with the usual Ceremonies & every other Demonstration of
Joy. — The Chiefs followed him to his Quarters, where he acquainted
with the Heads of past Transactions &ca. & told them that the pre
sent State of their Aff^{rs}.. wou'd not admit of his Loitering any Tim
but nevertheless he had bro^{t}. a few Things under his Care for their
Wifes & Children most in Want, especially those whose Husbands we
on Service, adding that he made no Doubt many were ready. — Th
visited by all the diff^{t}. Ind^{s}. & by the Chief Women & rec^{d}.. some hand
some Comp^{ts} — from the princ^{le}.. Men.

They came to a Meeting in the Afternoon, when Col^{o}. Johnson
laid before them the Urgency of Affairs, & acquainted them that it was

absolute

27 Time now to delay in passing this Old Town tho' he was well acqu-
ted with them all & wou'd never neglect the most essentials of
but that this Village with Caghnawaga & Canassadaga were imm-
diately under Direction of the Genl. who had Officers to take Care
them. that he had pointed out Carleton Island as the Place
Rendezvous where Col.o Johnson should then Comm.d them all
attend to their Respective Matters, wishing them to use Alacrity
& Dispatch. — At 11 A.M. Embark'd & proceeded to the W. e
of the Lake where he was met by 8 Canoes who were sent
by their Chiefs to entreat him to visit their Castle which h
promis'd to do soon after encamp'd.

Saturday 18th. A little after 6 A.M. embark'd & proceeded to St Regis wher
he arrived at ½ past 11 & was saluted with Cannon & small Arms,
received with the usual Ceremonies & every other Demonstration of
joy. — The Chiefs followed him to his Quarters, where he acquainted
with the Heads of past Transactions &c. & told them that the p
sent State of their Affrs. wou'd not admit of his bringing any
but nevertheless he had brot. a few Things under his Care for the
Wives & Children most in Want especially those whose Husbands w
in Service, adding that he made no Doubt many were ready. — H
visited by all the diff.t Ind.s & by the Chief Women & rec.d some han-
some Comp.ts from the princ.l Men.

They came to a Meeting in the Afternoon when Col.o Johnso
laid before them the Urgency of Affairs, & acquainted them that it was

absol

20

absolutely necessary for him to set off next Morning, & S.d he did not doubt but he shou'd find a suffict. Party of Warriors zealous enough to accomp. this without staying for Frolics or any thing that might retard them. As Lieut. Johnson had shewn a Letter from Capt. Fraser mentioning Major Butler having been defeated & his retreating before the Enemy & as in Consequence thereof Mr. Johnson had Orders to dissuade the Inds. from proceeding or at least to keep a suffict. No. at Home ready for any Service that might be required, Col. Johnson advised them to do so & ask'd for a Return of those that wou'd go forthwith from true Zeal only.

The Inds. thereupon S.d they always regarded, & ever shou'd consider Col. Johnson as their Chief & sole Supt.; that at one Time they were order'd to be ready, at another Time to stop, but that they were ready to go with Col. Johnson, & that if he wou'd not take them all he shou'd have the greater Part. After being thank'd for their Speech they consulted awhile & at length told Col. Johnson that leaving 30 at Home they cou'd still spare him 60 Warriors, but he finding that they wanted to fall to drinking & might delay him told them that he could not possibly wait after the News he had heard, & therefore wish'd to know the exact Number of those he cou'd depend on to be in Readiness in the Morning

Sunday 19. At 4 of A.M. Col. Johnson cross'd the River to where the rest of his Boats lay & was soon after follow'd by the Chiefs who reported that 20 were then ready & the rest wou'd follow the next Day. he then gave out a full Mounting for 100 Women besides Children & after thanking

Power have, & always shall use my utmost Endeavours to restrain the Indians from Acts of Cruelty and indiscriminate Vengeance which both as a Man & an Officer I hold in abhorrence.

Col. Bolton informs me that your Excellency seems to think the Allowance of Bounty Money to the Rangers on Inlistment rather unreasonable, & not agreeable to the Intention of General Carleton; to satisfy your Excellency in regard to this I inclose you a Copy of an Account sent to Sir Guy Carleton wherein this Allowance is charged which he never made any Objection to. I have the honor &c.

(Signed) John Butler

P.S. Col. Bolton has ordered fifty of the Rangers under Capt. Caldwell to be ready to set off for Detroit the 5th Instant

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No. 21.
From
Major Butler
to
Genl Haldimand

Niagara Sept 20th 1779

Sir

I am sorry to inform you that the Reinforcements your Excellency is sending up are too late to save the Country of the Five Nations from being destroyed: this has been very rapidly effected by the Rebels whose superior Strength & Numbers made all our Efforts to stop their Progress of small Avail. Your Excellency has been informed thro' Colonel Bolton of every thing that has happened, and the Intelligence received of the Number & Designs of the Enemy. The Rebels taking Possession of Genisee obliged me to Retreat to this place for the want of Provisions which it was impossible to have conveyed to us in sufficient Quantity as all Communication with the Lake was by that means cut off. By the Scouts left to watch the Motions of the Enemy I am informed that they have burned the Genesee Village and destroyed the Corn and are making a hasty Retreat whether they mean to return the same way they came, or by way of Fort Stanwix I am not yet informed, but expect soon to know: Two Parties of Rangers and Indians leave this tomorrow, the one is to go along the Lake taking with them a Gun Boat to reconnoitre as far as Oswego, and we hope soon to be fully assured whether the Rebels have any immediate Designs against this Post or not... In your Excellency's Letter of 26th July you complain of the great Expence of the Indian Department at the Upper Posts: I can only answer for the Accounts of that under my immediate Direction, that all the Oeconomy possible has been used, but your Excellency will observe if you Consult the Indian Accounts from this Post that they are generally much Swelled by Charges which the Indian Department has nothing at all to do with, such as Cattle purchased for the use of the Garrison, Necessaries for distressed Families and Prisoners, and many other things in which Indians are not at all concerned. I must acquaint your Excellency that I do not think it will be in my power to Lessen their Expences, but fear it will be much encreased by the distressed Situation to which the Indians under my Charge are now reduced, in being driven from their Country & having every thing destroyed at the same Time as strict Oeconomy shall be used as is possible. In Regard of Provisions it must be obvious to your Excellency that they will now want more than ever. —— I have communicated to Sir John Johnson every material Information, and shall always chearfully concur with him or any other person in every thing that may promote the good of His Majesty's Service.

Notwithstanding the Losses the Indians have suffered by the Destruction of their Corn & Villages, I am happy to acquaint your Excellency that they seem still unshaken in their attachment to His Majesty's Cause; and declare as soon as they have placed their Women and Children in Security they will go & take Revenge of the Enemy.

I am Sir &c Signed / John Butler

Niagara 13 Novem. 1779

No. 22. Sir

The Pay Bills for the Subsce of the Corps of Rangers Under my Command, from the 25 December 1777 to the 25th December 1779, are now made out According to my beating Order, and the Muster Rolls, which will be delivered to your Excellency by Captain Butler and I hope they may be found right, and that your Excellency will see fit to direct a Regular Warrant to be granted for the same.

I have charged for the Contingent Men agreeable to the Custom of the Army, and for Expenses & bounty money for the inlistment of Effective Men; the latter has been allowed me for former inlistments by Sir Guy Carleton, and for that purpose delivered me, on my receiving his orders for raising the Corps, a Sum of Money; (for which I have Accounted with him for the former) the former I humbly conceive my Corps intitled to agreeable to the usuage and Custom in the Army, particularly, as I was told on raising the Corps, both by the General and his Secretary, that the Rangers would be intitled to every allowance made

other

Sept.r 23d 1779 —

Sir 15 Miles below Oswegatchie

Agreeable to your Excellency's desire I opened the enclosed Letters but find nothing for my information — I overtook all the Detachments and Colonel Johnson last night. in Consequence of some Letters received giving an account of the disagreeable Situation Colonel Butler & the Six Nations are in I have pressed forward with the utmost dispatch, going night and day when it could be done with safety and I have the pleasure to assure your that no Men ever done any thing with more Cheerfulness and good Will from which I have reason to think (if Colonel Butler's party is not dispersed or the Enemy's Numbers not too great) we will be able to Effect our purpose agreeable to your Excellency's Wishes. I hope to be at Carleton Island the day after to Morrow — I have the honor to be

with great respect
Your Excellency's
most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
John Johnson

The Indians of
Caghnawaga and the
Lake of the two Mountains
are not yet returned

From 1779

Sir John Johnson

23d Septr — Recd 28th

Carleton Island 1[illegible] Apr. 1779

Sir

I beg leave to inclose here for your Excellencies perusal a Copy of Colonel Bolton's last letter to me, as the Colonel desires that the contents of it should be communicated to your Excellency.

By a letter I received from Col. Bolton dated the 10th Instt in which he requested that I should immediately order every man that could be spared from Carleton Island to join him as soon as possible. I have before sent to Niagara a second reinforcement of a Subaltern officer two serjeants and twenty six rank and file of the Royal Yorkers. at the same time begd that the two parties belonging to this garrison should be sent back as soon as the danger was over at Niagara.

Capt. Forbes with one hundred men of the 34th Regiment arrived here yesterday and Sir John Johnson with the rest of the Troops under his Command are every minute expected to come in sight — and the two large vessels and a small one are at present at this place — I have the honour to be with great respect

Your Excellencies most
Obedient & Humble Servant
John Nairne

His Excellency
General Haldimand [illegible]

P.S.

The hundred German Chaſseurs are just now arrived here ——— as is also now Sir John Johnson and the men of his Regiment, at one o'Clock afternoon

from Do. 1779
Major Nairne 26th Septr
Recd 3d Octr —

Carleton Island 26th Sept. 1777

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that the several Detachments under my Command except the 47th arrived here partly yesterday and today without meeting with any Accident or loss whatever and I believe in much less time than any body of Men ever came it before, notwithstanding which I am sorry to find we are too late to meet the Enemy where it was expected — but as I have every reason to think, from the letters received from Major Butler, that the Indians are gone in pursuit of them, I shall endeavour to prevail upon the Canada Indians and others to go to Irondequet, came of before; notwithstanding which, I am sorry to find we are too late to meet the Enemy where it was expected — but as I have every reason to think, from the letters received from Major Butler, that the Indians are gone in pursuit of them, I shall endeavour to prevail upon the Canada Indians and others to go to Irondequoit, or whatever place may be thought most convenient to join and Co-operate with the Six Nations, and Rangers, for which reason I will dispatch a Boat to Niagara to inform Colonel Bolton of my intention, and I make not the least doubt from the firmness the Indians have shewn notwithstanding their late losses and Misfortunes that we will be able fully to revenge the late Insults; at any rate your Excellency may be assured I shall loose no time in attempting whatever may be thought best for the good of the Kings Service — Colonel Johnson and the Indians are not yet arrived, but are expected to Morrow — I must beg leave to refer you to Colonel Butlers Letters for further particulars relative to the Enemys Actions and retreat from the Indian Country

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient
& Most Humble Servant
John Johnson

a Body of Indians on the lower part of the Mohawke River would be of great service and would facilitate any attempts we may make that way.

Mohawk River
would be of great
service and would
facilitate any
attempt we may make
that way.

Your Excellencys
Most Obedient
and Most Humble Servant
John Johnson

His Excellency
General Haldimand

from A 1779

Sir John Johnson
Carleton Island 26th Septr.
Recd. 3d. Octr.

Montreal the 27th Septr 1779 162.

Sir

You will please to Inform his Excellency the Commander in Chief, that there is about 270 Indns from Caughniwage, the Lake of the two mountains, and St Regist gone to the assistance of the five nations, the Last of whom pass St Regis the 23d Inst. that the whol were Conducted By Messrs Lamoth, La Bruere, & Chancourse

That there is Still Remaining ~~to~~ about 100 Warriors Between the Lake and Caughniwage, who see to be more disposed, for going to hunt, Beaver & Deer, than going to war, Especially those of Caughniwage, who are a good Deal deranged these few days past By the arrival of a Chief of that Village

To
Captn R. Mathews Secy.

who was always a Rebel, and ha
Been at the Oneida Castle with the
Chief of that nation who Escape
Being killed at Caughnawage
By the Soldiers, who ~~[illegible]~~ Says
that the Rebels in two Different
actions with the five nations
killed Sixty of them, and that
one half of the Indns had alread
Laid Down their Arms and that
the other half with Coll Butle
had fled to Niagara, he has
brought a Belt from the Oneida
to the Seven Villages in this Co
threatening them with their Destructi
If they ~~[illegible]~~ should persist in takin
the King's part any Longer, and
Saying Every thing he Can in
-vent to dispose the Village fo
the Rebels, That I Shal Be gla
to know his Excellency's plea
we with Regard to this Villa

Capt. R. Mathews

and to

know as nearly as possible
the Day he shall require the
warriors that I may take my
precautions, I am

Sir

your most Obd^t and
most humble Serv^t
John Campbell

my not hearing from Esign
Johnson till last is the reason
I did not Report to the Gen^{al}
Before now Agreable to my
Letter to you from La Chine
J Campbell

Captn R Mathews &c &c

From 1779

Lt. Colonel Campbell

27th Septr —

Recd 29th

Parole envoyée par Le Gouverneur General du Canada, aux Micmacs habitans les Côtes du Golphe St. Laurent—

Mes Enfans—

Je Vous r'envoye deux Prisonniers de votre Nation, de ceux qui ont eté pris a Miramichi, afin de vous avertir, que les autres neuf sont partis pour Halifax, pour etre remis a Monsieur Le Gouverneur, D'Halifax, et y rester comme hôtages de votre Conduite——

La presente Parole est pour Vous annoncer, que si il Vous arrive doresnavant de maltraiter ~~d'aucune Maniere les Sujets~~ en aucune Façon les Sujets du Roi, on Vous regardera comme Enemis de Sa Majesté, et on Vous traitera sur ce Pied par tout ou on Vous rencontrera, et vos hôtages seront punis de Mort; Au contraire, si Vous abandonnés le Parti des Rebelles, et que Vous restiés tranquilles, Vos hôtages seront bien traités, et Vous continuerés a recevoir les Secours, dont Vous avés Besoin pour votre Subsistence—

Ces mêmes Messagers Vous annonceront la Parole, que les Sauvages des cinq Nations et ceux du Canada leur ont donné, que si ils continuoient a tenir le Parti des Rebelles, Ils leur Declareroient la Guerre, et les Regarderoient comme Ennemis, puis que tous les Hommes rouges du Continent avoient pris le Parti du Roi, contre les Bastonnois, et leurs Alliés, Les François, ainsi votre Bonheur et votre Tranquilité dependent de la Conduite, que Vous tiendrés par la suite —

Aprés que Vous aurés Deliberé sur ce qui Vous est ici annoncé, Vous envoyerés deux Deputés au Gouverneur D'Halifax, pour lui ~~faire sçavoir~~ ~~communiquer~~ faire sçavoir votre Resolution, que Vous communiquerés aussi à Monsieur Smith, Porteur de la presente, qui aura soin de me la faire parvenir, afin que Je sçache, si Je dois Vous regarder comme Ennemis, ou comme Gens, qui, sensibles aux Fautes, qu'ils ont deja Commis, cherchent a les reparer —

Un grand Collier de Porcelaine Noire —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Parole aux Micmacs
remise à Mr. Smith
de la Baye des Chaleurs
le 29e 7bre 69

Copy

Fort Haldimand 29th Sepr. 1779

Sir,

I arrived at this Place the 26th instant with the Troops under my Command, since which the Indians have also arrived, except the Coghnawagas, who are near at hand. — finding from all the Intelligence I have been able to collect here, that the Enemy have retired to Tioga, with an intention of Establishing a Post there, I consulted with the Chiefs of all the Nations here, which would be the nearest and best place for our Rendezvous, in order to march from thence to endeavour to dislodge the Enemy from any Works they may have begun to erect, and it is determined to go to Asarotus — and I am now only waiting for a fair Wind — A Detachment of the 34th Regimt. and my own consisting of One hundred and forty Men, together with all the Indians, are to go in Batteaux & Canoes round by Oswego, in Order, after all is over, to convey us to such place as the Service may require without detaining the the Veſsels from the transport of Provision — I may however have occasion for the Mohawk, if the Service will admit of it — In hopes that the six Nations will approve of our Plan, and join us immediately together with the Rangers under the Command of Major Butler agreeably to the General's Orders to me, I have ordered six weeks Provisions for fifteen hundred Men to be landed at the Place of Rendezvous to save the transport of that Article from Niagara —

I take with me from hence two Braſs six-pounders, and the General writes me that you will provide me with any further aſsistance I may stand in need of, therefore if you have no intelligence of the Enemys having abandoned their Posts in the Indian Country, I would be glad you would send me two Cohorns, or rather one Cohorn and one Howitz, with every thing neceſsary for them, and an Officer and a proper Number of Men to work the Artillery, which the General acquaints me he has ordered; and as I could not be provided with a proper proportion of Ammunition &c. for the six-pounders here, I enclose a Return of the Deficiency which I beg you will send to me by return of the Veſsels that will bring the Rangers and Indians to join us. The greatest difficulty I imagine will be in our march to Canadasega which, with the aſsistance of as many horses as you can send us, may be soon got over — should the Enemy have abandoned the Indian Country, you

will

Please to let me know it immediately, and what number of Men you will be able to provide with Provision & Lodging during the course of the Winter, as I am ordered to send the remainder back to Canada.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir,

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant

Lt. Col. Bolton. (Signed) John Johnson

Copy of a Letter from
Sir John Johnston to
Lt. Colonel Bolton, dated
at Fort Haldimand
29th Sepr. 1779 —

Carleton Island 29th Septr 1779

90.

Sir

I arrived here with Sir Jno. Johnson the 26th Inst. with some of the St Regis Indians and all those of the Lake came next Day, but [illegible] [illegible] on account of the Embarrassments & the disappointment upon waiting for them at this place but have agreed to proceed immediately upon their arrival to   where the Indians of the Five Nations are invited by Express to meet them as soon as possible, in order to concert measures for pursuing the Rebels or for revenging their late sufferings in the most likely quarter.

The old Chief of Tiahogwando [illegible] who was so long at Quebec the Summer spoke in Council in the most bitter & disrespectful terms of His Majesty & Your Excellency for having suffered the Rebels to have destroyed the Five Nations Country without affording the Indians the assistance promised to them — that now they [illegible] [illegible] their Villages & every thing else they had ~ destroyed — That the handful of Men which are now sending [illegible] be of no use to oppose the strong Army which came against them even if they had been sent in time — they had been told the King's troops were as numerous as the leaves on the trees, but the comparison could not be properly applied to the very few he now saw — He [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] fully informed Your Excellency of the approach of the Rebels, and he was promised sufficient assistance — and was answered that the King had great Eyes that saw every thing & their Brethren the Five Nations had nothing to fear, the day had now arrived which proved they were intentionally [illegible] & the war [illegible] was now to begin again — A Chief of St. Regis spoke in still more harsh & pointed terms, and added that the seven Villages of Canada have been withheld from going to the assistance of the 5 Nations, and were [illegible] at present by a very considerable number — tho' I well knew the Rebels were in possession of their best Castles

Coll. Johnson and myself made them the most suitable answers to their Speeches to prevent their making improper impressions but these measures are evident that I was afraid from their great Losses in these Nations that they may forego their Attachment unless some action is taken to prevent it — They have both been with Rebels personally & from attempts they made to get before the Detachment was completed they beg'd to offer terms to the Rebel General, if they had intended These were their particulars to Col. Butler that he may take measures to prevent their influencing the Indians above, but it is with the same view that I take the liberty to mention them to Your Excellency

I find [illegible] with the want of more Officers, as [illegible] three hundred and there are ~~I have only [illegible] these [illegible]~~ ~~of the most capable~~

As the loss which the five Nations have suffered will require more than ordinary assistance from Govt in course of the winter, I beg leave to submit whether it would not be a saving of expence to get some of the women & Children into Canada for the winter, & it would certainly be a security against their Connections joining the Rebels — And if a quantity of Indian Corn, Beans & Pumkins were sent this fall to Niagara to be distributed in planting time to the five Nations I think it might have a good Effect —

I have the honor to be with much
Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedt and
most humble Servant
A. Fraser

Carleton Island 19th Augt
1779

from A 1779
Captn Alexr Fraser
29th Septr — Rd 6th Oct

September 28. Whereas by the Charter of Incorporation of this City it is provided that on the 29th day of September in every year one Constable is to be elected in each ward, and whereas it has been found by experience that a greater number of Constables are necessary, therefore

Resolved that at the Election to be held on the 29th day of September instant an additional Constable be chosen in each ward.

William B. Hilton petitioned for the use of an acre of Land lying immediately west and adjoining the Lot lately belonging to John Taylor.

Thereupon Resolved that the Petition of the said Hilton be granted, and that he have the same for seven years without any rent, and in case he shall at any time during the term of seven years not want the same for his own use, that then and in that case the same shall immediately revert to the Corporation.

Resolved that the Clerk draw an order on the Treasurer in favor of Thomas Seeger for ten pounds on account.

At a Common Council held at the City Hall of the City of Albany on the 29th day of September, 1779.—Present, the Mayor, John Price, John Roorbach, John Ja. Beekman, John N. Bleecker, John M. Beekman, Samuel Stringer, Ab^{m} I. Yates, Cornl^{s} Swits, Leo. Gansevoort Jun., Peter W. Douw, Isaac D. Fonda, Mat. Visscher.

This being the day appointed by the Charter for the election of two Aldermen two Assistants and two Constables for each ward, the Polls of the Election for that purpose were returned, from whence it appeared that the following were duly elected, viz:

Aldermen.	Assistants.	Constables.
	First Ward.	
John Price	Ab. I. Yates	Jacob Kidney
John Roorbach	Mat. Visscher	John Van Sante Jun.
	Second Ward.	
John Ja. Beeckman	Isaac D. Fonda	James Paul
John N. Bleecker	Peter W. Douw	Thomas Auker.
	Third Ward.	
Samuel Stringer	Cornelius Swits	William Fuller
John M. Beekman	Leonard Gansevoort Jun.	Benjamin Kip.

The Board then proceeded to the appointment of the Chamberlain, Marshall and High Constable, and appointed Garret Ryckman, Chamberlain; Thomas Seeger, Marshall; Jacob Kidney, High Constable.

The Board being informed that Col^{o} Gansevoort had made Prisoners of the Indians residing at the lower Mohawk Castle, the Reversion of which Lands being in this Board, and it being of the highest importance that the Board should be informed how and upon what Principles those Indians were made Captives and removed, therefore

Resolved that Col^{o} Gansevoort be requested to attend the Board in order to give information relative to the capture of those Indians.

Col^{o} Gansevoort appeared and informed that pursuant to orders from the hon^{ble} Major General Sullivan he had removed and made Prisoners of the said Indians, an Extract of which said Orders are as follows, to wit:

You will proceed by the shortest Route to the lower Mohawk Castle, destroy it and captivate if possible all the Indians that may be there;

whatever Prisoners may fall into your hands you are to proceed with to Albany and from thence with all possible despatch to Head Quarters. You are by no means to leave any of the Prisoners at Albany unless particularly directed by General Washington or Congress. These Orders were dated 20th Sept. 1779, signed JOHN SULLIVAN, Maj^r Gen^l.

And directed to Col^o Gansevoort.

This Board thereupon Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to draw a state of the claim of the Corporation to said Lands and to employ and consult with Council what steps may be necessary to be pursued in order to obtain possession of said Lands. The members chosen are Messrs. Mat. Visscher, Leonard Gansevoort Jun. and John Roorbach.

Resolved that the present and late Chamberlain furnish the said Committee or either of them with such Papers belonging to this Board as they may conceive necessary in the premises.

October 5. Mr. Visscher from the Committee appointed last meeting to draw a state of the Claim of this Board to the Lands of Tiononderoga and to take the advice of Council, thereupon reported that they had drawn a state which is in the following words to wit:

State of the Claim of the Corporation of the City of Albany to the Lands in Tryon County, called lower Mohawk Castle or Tiononderoga.

I. Governor Dungan by Charter dated 22 July, 1686, among other things did grant unto the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany full Liberty and Licence at their pleasure to purchase from the Indians one thousand acres of low or meadow Land lying at a place called Tiononderoga, and that the same might be in what part of Tiononderoga or the Lands adjacent on both sides of the River as the said Mayor &c. should think most convenient, and also did by the said Charter give, grant and confirm the same unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, to hold to them and their successors for ever. Yielding and paying therefore yearly forever the annual Quit Rent of a Beaver Skin on the 20th March.

II. That on the 12th day of October, 1730, the Corporation of the said City on the application of the Mohawk Indians did accept and take from them a Deed in due form of Law executed for the quantity of one thousand acres of Land at Tiononderoga aforesaid, to hold to them and successors in trust for the said Mohawk Indians so long as they should continue a Nation and be settled there, and from and immediately thereafter the remainder to the only use and behoof of the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty their successors and assigns for ever, which said Deed remained in possession of John De Peyster Esq. then Mayor of the said City until the 12 Sept. 1733, when upon a Message of William Cosby, Esq., then Governor of New York, he delivered the same to him to be used at a Treaty with of said said Indians, at which Treaty, by the directions of the said William Cosby Esq. the said Deed was tore in pieces and consumed.

III. That previous to the execution of the said deed to wit on the 14th day of June, 1721, two of said Indians conveyed eleven Morgan of said Lands to Mr. Cuyler in fee, whose heirs afterwards on the 24 April 1769, obtained from the Corporation for the consideration of thirty pounds a Conveyance or Release for the same.

IV. That on the 7th July 1730, some of the said Indians conveyed ten or eleven Morgan of said Lands to Peter Brower for the term of 999 years, who on the 29th November 1734, conveyed the same to the Corporation.

V. That the Corporation on the 27th April, 1749, leased the said ten or eleven morgan to the said Peter Brower for the said term of 999 years, at the annual rent of one Skipple of wheat for each morgan.

VI. That also previous to the execution of said Indian Deed, some of the said Indians had conveyed to Jan Wemp the quantity of twenty-two morgan of said Lands, who on the 13th of September, 1737, obtained from the Corporation a conveyance for the same under an annual rent.

VII. That the said Indians have from time deserted and removed from the said Lands, that for these two years last past no more than four families have remained on the same, who by virtue of an order from Gen^{l} Sullivan are now also removed.

VIII. That the said lands are now possessed principally by refugees from Andrews Town, Cherry Valley, &c., and part of them by persons who have been settled by some of said Indians.

The Corporation want to know how and in what manner they must get possesssion of those Lands, some of the possessors they suppose will attorn to and take Leases under the Corporation, and others they suppose will not, and that they had taken the opinion of Peter W. Yates, Esq. upon the preceding state, which is in these words, to wit:

Gents.: Agreeable to your request I have taken into consideration the state of your claim to the Lands at Tionondoroga in Tryon County, and upon the whole I conceive it advisable for you as soon as possible to cause them to be surveyed and the boundaries properly fixed and ascertained. After which you should take into your possession all the unpossessed Lands that lie within those bounds, and lease them out for a short term on a reasonable rent. These Leases should be carefully drawn and a special Clause inserted for the Tenant peaceably to deliver up the possession at the end of the term to you or your successors.

As it is probable that you will meet with no obstruction in thus obtaining possession, it will be the most eligible mode for you now to pursue, considering at the same time the difficulty, de.ay and expence that would attend your bringing ejectments in which you would finally recover no more than the possession, nor would such recovery operate as a bar to another suit brought for the same Lands by those who may lay claim to them at a future day.

But with respect to such of the Lands as are possessed by persons who shall refuse to attorn or become Tenants to you, it will be necessary for you to bring ejectments against them in order to oust them of the possession. And as you are a corporate body the mode of process will differ from the ordinary course pursued in ejectment causes, for it will be necessary for you to give a Letter of Attorney empowering some person by Deed under your common Seal to enter and seal a Lease upon the Land, and if there be several parcels of Land possessed by several persons, in that case several Leases must be made as above directed and Declarations delivered to each Tenant in possession. After this the proceedings will be carried on nearly as usual in other ejectment causes.

Altho by the Charter of Incorporation you have an undoubted estate in fee simple in these Lands, and altho the Indian Deed referred to in your state cannot stricto jure be considered as part of your title (since those

Deeds are only intended to purchase Peace instead of property), yet as it may be serviceable to you in other respects at a future day I think the testimony of Mr. De Peyster relative to that Deed, may be of great service, and he being very old I recommend it to your consideration whether it not be advisable for you to file a Bill in Chancery to perpetuate his testimony. 4 Oct. 1779. PETER W. YATES.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and
Commonalty of the City of Albany.

Resolved thereupon that a Committee of three be appointed to locate the said Lands and that a surveyor be appointed for that purpose.

The Committee chosen for the above purpose are Aldermen John Price, John Ja. Beekman and John Roorbach.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to draw Instructions for the Committee that are appointed to locate the Lands at Tiononderoga, and that they report thereon by next Saturday. The Committee chosen are Alderman Stringer, Mr. Visscher and Gansevoort Jun^r^.

Resolved that the last mentioned Committee be and they are hereby empowered to draw on the Chamberlain for any Deeds and papers that they may conceive necessary,

Resolved that the Committee appointed to locate the Lands at Tiononderoga be empowered to draw on the Chamberlain for £400 and that they be accountable for the same.

Resolved that the said sum of £400 be taken on Loan, and that Alderman Roorbach and Mr. Visscher procure the same and give proper security for the payment of the same in the name of the Board.

October 9. Resolved that the Committee who were appointed last meeting to locate and take possession of the Lands at the lower Mohawk Castle be informed that the Board have postponed taking possession and locating said lands.

October 13. Resolved that a piece of ground containing one hundred acres be granted to Bodewyne Kip agreeable to a Resolution of this Board passed on the 24th day of March, 1775, that the said Bodewyne Kip have the same surveyed and laid out at his own expence and make a return of such survey to this Board certified by the surveyor. and that a Lease for ever be then drawn for the same, subject to a yearly rent of twenty-five Skipples of good and merchantable winter wheat, the same to be delivered in this City and that the first payment be made on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord 1782, and that the Mayor sign the same and the City Seal be thereto affixed.

October 14. This day being appointed by the Charter for the qualification of the Aldermen, Assistants and Constables for the ensuing year, the following were sworn, viz: John Roorbach, John Ja. Beekman, John N. Bleeker, John M. Beekman, Samuel Stringer, as Aldermen; Ab^{m} I. Yates, Isaac D. Fonda, Cornl^{s} Swits, Leo. Gansevoort Jun., as Assistants; Jacob Kidney, Thomas Archer, James Paul, John Van Sante Jun^{r}, as Constables.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means to raise a sum of money sufficient to pay off the Debts contracted by this Board and to defray the necessary expenditures thereof in future, and that Aldermen Bleeker and Roorbach with Mr. Gansevoort Jun^{r}, be a

Committee for that purpose, and that they make a report as soon as conveniently may be.

October 19. John Price Esq. having been returned as one of the Aldermen for the first ward of this City, and not having qualified on the 14th instant he this day took the necessary Oaths.

Mr. Peter W. Douw having been returned as an Assistant for the second ward of this City, and not having qualified on the 14th instant he this day took the necessary Oaths.

October 20. The Committee appointed to devise ways and means to raise a supply of money for the present discharge of the Corporation debts and for the further contingent expences which may accrue, Report that several very considerable sums are due to that Board for Lots of ground sold some years ago, viz: from John Van Alen for a Lot, John Williams do, Volkert P. Douw do, Guysbert Merselis deceased do, Martin Mynderse do, and others, and for raising an immediate supply of money, they are of opinion that all the ground lying from the Powder House on the north and south side of a street to be continued from the lots of Abraham Schuyler and Dr. Stringer till the said street intersects a street running nearly north and south back of the English burying ground be sold at public vendue and that the said ground be laid out into house lots of thirty-six feet front and rear and two hundred feet deep more or less as the situation of the particular alotments may happen, that a ground rent be reserved on every rent Lot ten shillings per year of gold or silver money as the same is depreciated when the said rent becomes due; that after the present debts are discharged by the sale of the said ground the money which may remain in hands be immediately put into the Loan Office as a future fund—which being read by paragraphs and the question being put whether the ground mentioned in the aforegoing Report should be disposed of it was carried in the negative in the following manner:

For the Affirmative—Mr. Bleeker, Mr. Gansevoort Jun.

For the Negative—Beekman and Roorbach, Aldermen; Fonda and Yates, Assistants.

Resolved that Alderman Roorbach be appointed by this Board to revise the Ordinances and make report which of them it is necessary should be revived at the next meeting of this Board.

Resolved that the Ordinance for regulating the public Markets in the City of Albany be repealed.

Resolved that the Ordinance for marking of Bread be repealed.

November 18. Matthew Visscher was sworn as an Assistant for the first ward, and William Fuller as Constable for the third ward.

The Board proceeded to the appointment of Fire Masters for the ensuing year, and thereupon appoint Jeremiah Lansing and John Graham for the first ward; Jacob I. Lansing, Anthony Egbertse for the second ward; John I. Zabrisky, Isaac I. Truax for the third ward.

Ordered that the Clerk immediately make out the Warrants for said Fire Masters and that the Fines for each neglect or default in cleaning the Chimnies be four pounds.

Resolved that the Clerk send Advertisements to Schaghtekoke desiring the Tenants who hold under the Corporation to bring in their rent to Mr Ryckman the City Chamberlain.

The Board agreed with John Flansburgh to have the care of the public Bulls, and that for each of them he have four Skipples of wheat.

November 23. Mr. Mayor laid before the Board an extract of a Letter from the Rev^{d} Dr. Witherspoon to the Rev^{d} Mr. Westerlo, which was ordered to be read, but no Resolution made thereon.

December 3. Ordered that Mr. Gansevoort revise and amend the Ordinance of this Board for preventing of fire in this City and that he report the same with all convenient speed.

December 7. Mr. Gansevoort, who was appointed to revise and amend the Ordinance for preventing of Fire in this City, reported the Amendments which being read were agreed to, and

Ordered that the same be published, which was accordingly done.

Jeremiah Lansing and John Graham, who were on the 18th of November last appointed Fire Masters for the first ward, having refused to take upon themselves the burden of the said office, and the said John Graham having assigned sufficient reasons why he could not execute the said office, and it appearing also that the said Jeremiah could not execute the said office, whereupon the Board appointed John Boyd and Barent Roseboom Fire Masters for said ward.

At a Common Council held at the City Hall of the City of Albany on the 14th day of January in the year 1780—Present, the Mayor, Ab. Yates Jun., Recorder, John Ja. Beekman, John N. Bleeker, Samuel Stringer, John Roorbach, John Price, Mat. Visscher, Isaac D. Fonda, Peter W. Douw.

Ordered that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain in favor of Thomas Seeger for twelve pounds on account.

Ordered that the Chamberlain receive from Thomas Lotteridge the money due by him to this Board.

January 18. His Excellency the Governor being arrived in Town, it is Resolved that he be addressed in the following words:

May it please your Excellency: We the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your safe return to this place. It affords us the highest satisfaction that your Excellency has by the Suffrages of the People at the last general Election been continued as Chief Magistrate of the State, and we reflect with pleasure on the prospect of a continuation of those civil and religious Liberties which we in common with other our fellow citizens have enjoyed under our free Constitution and your wise administration.

While we lament the late cruel Depredations committed by a barbarous and savage Enemy on the Frontiers of this State, it gives us infinite pleasure that your Excellency (ever attentive to the preservation and protection of its Inhabitants and to punish the insolence and cruelty of the foe) has manifested a disposition and exerted your endeavour to repel their incursions, and altho unsurmountable difficulties have arisen against effecting the complete capture of their force, yet we congratulate your Excellency on their defeat at Canajoharry by the Militia and Levies under the command of Brigadier General Rensselaer, and permit us to add that our happiness is encreased by the consideration that the Enemy were restrained from the completion of their purposes by the vigor-

Sir,   Fort Haldimand 30th Septr 1779

Since writing to your Excellency last I have received no Intelligence from Niagara, but as it is imagined the Enemy mean to secure a Post at Tioga, and it would be loosing time to go to Niagara, it has (after consulting with the Indians Assembled here) been thought most expedient for the good of the Service to go to Oswego, it being the most Central place, and the nearest Route to Approach the Enemy from, nothing more than Six days March for light Troops—

I have this day sent off an Express Boat to Colonel Bolton to Acquaint him, and Major Butler with our intention, desiring to know the true Situation of the Enemy and whether the Six Nations will Assem thought most expedient for the good of the service to go to Kaserotus, it being the most Centrical place, and the nearest Route to Approach the Enemy from, nothing more than six days March for light Troops—

I have this day sent off an Express Boat to Colonel Bolton to Acquaint him, and Major Butler with our intention, desiring to know the true situation of the Enemy, and whether the six Nations will approve of our Plan, or if the Enemy have totally Abandoned their Country, what a Number of the Troops he can provide Quarters and provision for during the Winter, that I may know in time what part of them are to return to Canada, or rather to remain here if your Excellency should think fit— I beg leave to observe to you that I think it would be for the good of the service to encourage as Many of the six Nations to Winter here as possible, on account of the scarcity of provision that will be at Niagara should they all remain there, as I am told the provision intended for the upper Posts, cannot all be forwarded this year, they would also be a means of preserving this place from the insults of the Enemys Scouts, and they might be employed to advantage against them during the course of the Winter—

I take with me in the Mohawke, and in twenty Batteaux from hence, provision for fifteen hundred men for six Weeks, and that I might not detain the Vessels from the Transport of provisions, I have ordered a Detachment of one hundred and forty Men from the 34th and my own Regiment to go round in the Batteaux by Oswego, in Company with the Indians under the Command of Captain Fraser, there not being Room for them in the Vessels— the Detachment of the 47th remain here till the Veſsels from the Transports of [illegible]

Ordered a Detachment of one hundred and forty Men from the 34th and my own Regiment to go round in the Batteaux by Oswego, in Company with the Indians under the Command of Captain Fraser, there not being Room for them in the Veſsels the Detachment of the 47th remain here till the Shipping return— I shall send off a Scout to Fort Stanwix from Sandy Beach to endeavour to get a Prisoner, and to find out whether the three hundred head of Cattle that are there, could be brought off or killed, which must be attempted if nothing can be done the other Way.—

As there cannot be any Absolute Neceſsity for my remaining here this Winter even should your Excellency intend any Operation in this Quarter in the Spring, as I can always be up time enough for any thing that may be thought Necessary, I flatter myself You Will grant me Your permission to return to Canada.

The whole except the Indians embark this afternoon at four o'Clock they are to follow in the morning—

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
And most Humble Servant
John Johnson

John Johnson

His Excellency
General Haldimand

from A 1779

Sir John Johnson

Carleton Island 30th Sept.

Recd 6th Octr

Carleton Island Septemr. 30th 1779

Sir

After having been necessitated to stop for a day and an half at St. Regis, I arrived here two days since with above Two hundred people of which 120 are Fighting Indians, the rest Officers & white men, with some Squaws and Children, the latter much less in number, than has been usual in movements with the Six Nations, and as I have been in gt want of an Additional Officer at the present Exigence, I have appointed Mr. Wilkinson a Lieutenant, a Gentleman who served under, and is well recommended to me by Sir John Johnson, hoping from the necessity of it, your Excellency will honor him with your approbation

The Indians on receipt of the disagreeable news of their Country (which some of their people brought to our Encampment above the Long Sault) assembled in the night when Deiaquanda of Onondaga, and the Chief of St. Regis made each a long and severe Speech on their Situation complaining that their Country was given up without an Action, that they were unsupported, and left to be Sacrificed, after having drawn on themselves the resentment of the Rebels by their Signal Services to Government, and some of the Chiefs were for setting off instantly for their Country with an appearance of making terms with their Invaders, which however I prevented, as they then, and on all occasions since declared, they would be solely under my Guidance

I have just received a letter from Major Butler with an account of the destruction of the Indian Towns Corn &c and the distressed State of the Indians in consequence thereof adding that "they "will expect something extraordinary from me, and that it will be necessary for me to bring a large quantity of suitable goods to answer their expectation" I am happy in reflecting that having foreseen the delay attending the Goods from England as well as the wants of the Indians, I purchased as much as will be of great use at this time, till more can be procured for the purpose, and as I owe for the greatest part of them, as well as the Salaries of the Department & other Departments, due the 24th Instant the Accounts of which it has been impossible for me to make up yet, I take the Liberty to draw on your Excellency for Three thousand five hundred Pounds Sterg. in favor of Ellice and Company to be accounted for which Sum I hope will enable me to prosecute His Majesty's Service till I can send my Accounts in form. At the present Critical Period, I believe it will require no small Influence and addreſs with the Indians to keep up their Spirits and preserve their attachment to Government, but I shall not despair of effecting these neceſsary purposes, so long as I am duly supported in the discharge of my duty, notwithstanding I enter upon it here at the most unfavorable period, and under many restrictions which I hope will no longer exist.

Captain Fraser proceeds with a large party of the Indians in Boats and will join us at Oſwego, and I have sent an Officer to Niagara, to accompany those who shall incline to come from thence. The Reduction of the Indian Towns &c must involve the Indians in very great Distreſs this Winter, at the same time that it appears evidently the interest of Government to supply them and thereby prevent their defection, the consumption of provisions will certainly be great but every measure on my part shall be taken to give them content, and to prevent their misfortunes from affecting the publick Service as much as it now threatens to do

I am Sir &c (Signed) G Johnson

No 4

Oswego 22nd October 1779

Sir

I had the Honor to write to your Excellency on the 15th Inst from this place, wherein I mentioned among other things my Wish to have some Indians and their Officers at Carleton Island, and yesterday I had the pleasure to find on receiving your Dispatch of the 6th of this Instant that my Idea, coincided with your Excellencys on the Subject — I had intended to have sent one of my Deputy's to that place, but shall send a Captain and two or three Lieutenants of Indians, If Captain Fraser remain there to take care of them as one of my Deputy's will in that case be unneceſsary tho' perhaps your Excellency will be of opinion that one of my own Officers will be most agreable with the Six Nations — The greater part of the Mohawks and some of the rest will doubtleſs be prevailed on to go to Carleton Island, and this day I shall arrange that matter, as the Circumstances Sir John has aſsigned as well as the Order he has received, render it neceſsary for him to put his Troops into Winter Quarters ——— The Indians are in general in good Spirits considering their misfortunes, and with care are likely to do good Service yet, but the only object which Sir John Johnson could have in view at this advanced Season, was against one of their own Castles, and that is a matter so much against the Inclinations of the Indians of Canada, and of many of the Six Nations (even of those who Condemned the Oneidas) that it was not very probable

(Copy)
Lieut. Col. Campbell

Quebec 30th Septr 1779

93

Sir

Your Letter reporting the Number of Indians marched to the Aſsistance of the Six Nations, has been laid before me - and the Small number remaining to act in the Province, confirms me in the opinion Which lead me in my last Letters to You, to desire that no More than about 100 Should be Sent with Sir John Johnson — I have in View to Send a Scout to discover how far Mr Hazen has advanced in the Road, it is Said he is cutting to Miſsisquey Bay, and I wish it to be of Such Force as to be able to Effect a Stroke against him, which may be More Easily done, if his Party is divided, which has been reported to me. For this Purpose, you will please to inform me how Many Indians, Such as May be depended upon, You will be able to Collect Suddenly; for I would not have their Destiny known to them, or to any Person whatsoever untill they are Marched — Mr Crofts I should Suppose will be able to Send a good Many from St. Francois — and it May be neceſsary, particularly in the Disposition you Seem to think the remaining Indians, to Send a Party of white Men with them, which I shall Determine upon, as Soon as I learn from You the number of Indians that May be Collected for this Service. I think in the present Moment, it would be imprudent to proceed to Extremities with the disaffected Caughnawaga Chief, unleſs it Should appear that his Conduct is likely to produce Something very bad — when I am at Montreal or Sorel, I Shall Send for him, and Speak plainly to him, in the mean time, I would have You watch over his Conduct, and Collect every part of it that may be urged against him. The falsity of the Intelligence he brings from the Oneidas, is proved, by Letters I have Received both from Colonel Bolton & Major Butler, dated the 10th Instant – much later than his Information could have been – Major Butler had then lost three Indians, & three Rangers and no more – Finding the Rebels in Strength, he had very prudently retreated & wait for a Reinforcement – from Niagara – Two Light Companies & a Detachment of the Royal Highland Emigrants have Long Since Joined him, which with Sir John Johnson's Detachment, will reassemble the Six nations, & I make no doubt, give a good account of their Invaders. – You will do well to make this Just State of the affairs there, known at the different Villages, to Counteract, and invalidate that Chiefs Report &c –

I am &c (Signed) Fred: Haldimand

BRITISH MUSEUM

Copy

To. — 1779

Lieut. Col. Campbell

of the 30th. September

Carleton Island 1st Octr 1779

Sir 92

I inclose your Excellency a monthly Return of the Strength of this Garrison

The party of the Royal Emigrants, and Yorkers, which were sent from hence to Niagara are not yet returned, but expect that Colonel Bolton will certainly send them back by the first opportunity

I am very sorry that Captn MacDougall should be ordered away from this place, as he has been exceedingly serviceable in every part of the Recruiting Duty here. If he does not go on the Recruiting service. I hope your Excellency may be good enough to send Captn MacDougal back here again

The Troops under the Command of Sir John Johnson, who go in Batteaux, set off from hence yesterday afternoon, the rest who go in Vessels are all embarked the wind is not quite fair but the Vessels are kedging out to get under way

The Indians are not yet set off, but as they are all arrived and nothing now to stop them will probably go in a few hours

I have

She is a small Veſsel, and on that account detained her here expecting some Intelligence from that Quarter. An other of the same Size or leſs wou'd be of great Service on this lake, particularly if that Post or this should be in danger. The Gun boat built here wou'd answer the purpose, but I understand she will always be wanted at Carleton Island. —

All reports mention that the Rebels are aſsembling a Body of troops at Albany, and sending strong Detachments to Wioming, in a few days Captain Butler with Joseph intends to reconnoitre the Environs of Fort Pitt with a considerable party of Indians &c. Scouts are out as usual — two or three heavy pieces of Cannon with the Reinforcement you intend for this Post wou'd be of great Service, in case this Fort was attacked and the Enemy in poſseſsion of the other side of the River, perhaps such might be got at Oswegatchie or Cataraqui. Ammunition of course wou'd be wanted.

I am &c

(Signed) Mason Bolton

No. 41

Niagara October 2d. 1779

Sir,

Joseph Brant (who went from this some time ago with a party to observe the Enemys motions) arrived this day, and informs me that General Sullivan had detached 600 men from Canadasago towards Fort Stanwix, and has since returned to Tioga with the main Body, where they erected a strong Fort. The loſs of the Enemy by Major Butler's Account, amounts to above 80 Killed, the number of the wounded he thinks must be considerable, he aſsures me if 500 men had joined the Rangers in time, there is no doubt that instead of 300 at least a Thousand Warriors wou'd have turned out, and with that Force he is convinced Mr. Sullivan wou'd have had some reason to repent of his Expedition; but the Indians not being supported as they expected, thought of nothing more than carrying off their Families, and we had at this Post the 21st of last month 5036 to supply with provisions, and notwithstanding a number of Parties have been sent out since, we have still on the Ground 3678 to maintain. I am convinced your Excellency will not be surprized, if I am extremely alarmed, for to support such a multitude I think will be absolutely impoſsible. I have requested of Major Butler to try his utmost to prevail on the Indians, whose Villages have been destroyed to go down to Montreal for the Winter, where I have aſsured him they would be well taken care of, and to inform all the Rest who have not suffer'd by the Enemy, that they must return home and take care of their Corn &c, he has promised me he will do every thing in his power, and I have no doubt of it. — The two large Vessels and one of the small ones have been at Carleton Island some time, waiting for the Troops agreeable to your Excellency's orders, however I hope they will not be long detained there, as the season is far advanced, otherwise I foresee we shall be extremely distressed, nor is it possible for me to say what may be the Consequence. — The Caldwell I have employed in carrying up provisions and Merchandise to the Landing, as the soldiers are hard at Work in building Logg Houses and repairing the Store house at Fort Erie, when these are finished we shall have Barracks for 600 men, but Beding will of course be wanted, which the Barrack Master has wrote for a considerable time ago. — Our Works are repaired, and Lieut. Glenie on the approach of the Enemy offerd his Services and has been employed in making an Abbatis, he has also been extremely useful upon all occasions in assisting Lieut. Delgarno Acting Engineer. — Your Excellency will see the absolute necessity of forwarding a large quantity of Provisions up with the utmost Expedition, and the Vessels must navigate the Lakes as long as it is possible, a short time will determine, if the Rebels mean to attempt any thing more this year, and no time should be lost if your Excellency intends to employ the Troops under Sir John Johnson. — The six Nations I have no doubt of would readily join him should an Expedition be undertaken against the Oneidas, for they have given no Quarter to those of that Nation who fell into their hands. — The Detachment of an hundred men that I wrote to Captain Lernoult for, arrived here some days ago, but as the Rebels have returned, I have orderd the Major's Company and the men of the 47th who were left here to embark for Detroit, not wishing even at this time to leave that Post in too weak a State, and hope it will be in my power to send him a further Reinforcement when Sir John's Expedition is over.

I am &c

Signed) Mason Bolton

P.S.

I should be glad to know what to do with the Prisoners sent here by Captain Lernoult, some of them I forwarded to Carleton Island, and Major Nairne has applyed to me for leave to send them to Montreal; I have also many here belonging to the Indians, who have not as yet agreed to deliver them up. — I inclose a letter with some Intelligence from Captain Lernoult.

October the 5th. An Officer of the Indian Department, who left Carleton Island last Thursday arrived here in a Boat at two O'Clock on Sunday, and brought your Excellency's letters of the 9th 13th 14th and 16th of Septemr. also one from Sir John Johnson a Copy of which I inclose with my answer. — This Gentleman intends to return this Evening or tomorrow morning. — I sent a Gun Boat with a party of soldiers and a Canoe with Indians some Days ago to find out if the Rebels had any parties at Oswego, they have returned and bring not the least Intelligence of any Consequence. — This day Sir John Johnson and are Colonel Guy Johnson arrived at 11 O'Clock with the Detachment of the 34th Regt. a Company of German Yeagers & Lieut. Terrot with the men of the Royal Artillery — The Six Nations seem determined to cut off the Oneida Village.

No 42. Niagara Novem.r 10th 1779.

Sir!

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency, that Major Lernoult arrived here this day, and informs me that Gertie with a party of Shawnese and other Nations, had fallen in with Colonels Rogers & Campbell with a Detachment of fifty five Rebels in three Batteaux loaded with Cloathing & Merchandise for Fort Pitt. Forty four of the Enemy were killed on the spot just after they had landed, and the rest except six were taken Prisoners, Rogers was killed by Gertie, and Campbell is now Prisoner at Detroit. Colonel Clarke with about forty Vagabonds remain at Post Vincent, and by all Accounts are in great distress for want of Cloathing and Merchandise. The Success of this Expedition has raised the spirits of the Indians in that neighbourhood, but the enclosed Letters and papers will inform your Excellency of many particulars, and also of some Intelligence from Pensacola; Major Lernoult assures me that the Rebels have abandoned the Fort at Tuscarawas.

On Captain Caldwell's arrival here from Detroit, I ordered him with a party of Rangers and Indians to follow the Rebel Army and if possible to take a Prisoner; he has returned a few days ago, and informs me that General Sullivan had received an Express from General Washington on his leaving Canadasago, upon which he sent orders to set fire to the Strong Fort at Tioga, which is entirely destroyed, and had marched with the greatest part of his Army towards Philadelphia; and with such Expedition that he has left several hundred horses, Packsaddles and a considerable number of Cattle in the Woods — Parties of Indians are gone in quest of them — From Mr. Sullivan's hurry and Confusion in taking leave of the Indian Country, I have some reason to imagine General Clinton has found Employment for Washington, which has reduced him to the necessity of recalling to his assistance so considerable a Detachment. — Capt. Caldwell went about sixteen miles beyond Tioga, but cou'd not prevail on the Indians to go to Wioming. — Your Excellency has inclosed a Copy of a Letter found at Tioga — from the Number of Graves he observed in several places there is scarce a doubt but many of their Wounded men must have died. ———

I am concerned to inform you Sir, that Captain Aubrey has put Ensign Hamilton under an Arrest, and notwithstanding Captain Lernoult made several Attempts to have these disagreeable Affairs amicably settled without troubling your Excellency, that it has been all to no Purpose ———

Colonel Johnson informs me the six Nations are resolved

not

Montreal the 4th October 1779

Sir

I fear it will not be in my Power to Collect more then one hundred wariors for the Service your Excellency Intends them for at Present, as many are gone hunting already and more will goe, notwithstanding my Indeavours to Stop them, with that of the Gentlemen's Connected with the Different Villages —

I have the Honor to Be with Due Respect

Sir

your Excellency's most obt
and most humble Servant
John Campbell

His Excellency
Genl Haldimand
&c. &c. &c. —

BRITISH MUSEUM

1779

From

Lt. Coll. Campbell

4th Oct – Recd. 6th

33. them. Capt. Fraser sd. the Genl. did not approve of giving Commissions to the Canadians.

Friday Octr. 1. An Indian wounded another mortally in the Breast.

Saturday 2nd.. Capt. Fraser & the Party to go in Boats sat off at 11 A.M. — Recd. an Acct. that 2 Scouting Partys that went out about a Month ago were returned & that the one had taken 5 Prisoners the other one Scalp. — 25 St. Regis Indns. return'd this Day to their Village pretending they were not supplied as they ought by Capt. Fraser

Monday 4th.. The Wind becoming favourable Colo. Johnson, Sir John & Troops embarked on Board the Vessels & at ½ past 10 A.M. got under Way. — The Wind increased & blew with such Violence that it was found impossible to make Asserotus, & the Vessels were obliged to bear away for Niagara.

Tuesday 5th.. Landed at Niagara a little after 10 A.M. — Was visited by several of the Indns.. of whom there are now 3605 daily victualled here.

From the Intelligence recd. here it appears totally impracticable to go after the Enemy, but it is thought the Oneyda Village may be cut off which wou'd open a Way for carrying on the War with better Prospect on the Frontiers.

Wednesday 6th.. Colo. Johnson met the Chiefs in the Council House

in

Presence of Sr. John & Lt. Col.o Bolton & with 3 Strings of Wampum went briefly thro' the Forms of Condoleance which was return'd with 3 Strings & many Compts. & Congratulations were made him on his Arrival &ca.

Kiangarachta return'd Col.o Johnsons Condoleance on their late Losses in a particular Manner, after apologizing for its not having been more circumstantially performed before.

Thursday [illegible]th. At 11 A.M. the Chiefs assembled at Col.o Johnson's Quarters with Sr. John Johnson.

Kiangarachta } Senecas
Deaguenda
Teyawarunte } Onondagoes
De Carihoga
Thayendinegea } Mohocks
Othingegechte } Cayougas
& several Others

Teyawarunte, Speaker, addressed Col.o Johnson as follows, viz

Brother Gorah Urachquadera!

We hope you'll make Allowances for our present Confusion which prevented us from being as full respecting our Condoleance as our ancient Customs required. We now by this Belt assure you, Sir John & all the Family of our true Regard & we sincerely congratulate you & thank the great Spirit for enabling us to see you this Day after all your Perils & Dangers by Land & by Water.

Brother! We heard that you was at N York & afterwards diſappointed in your Paſsage & we stretched out our Necks for a long Time to look for you. You are now arriv'd & we most sincerely welcome you to this Place at which you have made a Council Fire therefore agreeable to Custom we begin at your Feet to pluck the Thorns out, we also wipe the Dust off your Body. we clear your Sight & open your Ears & we cleanse your Body removing all Impurities & sweeping the Council Seat that you may proceed to Buſineſs & we aſsure you Brother that we are made happy by your Arrival.

A White Belt, 8 Rows.

Colo. Johnson answered that he would easily make Allowance for any little Omiſsions at a Time when their Minds must neceſsarily be much agitated. That what they had now said made him perfectly easy & gave him great Satisfaction of Mind as it did also to all the Family.

Gave a Belt.

Teyawarunte having return'd him Thanks in the Name of the Whole for what he had said. Colo. Johnson addreſs'd them as follows

Brothers!

Every Ceremonial being now happily performed previous to our proceeding upon Buſineſs I think it neceſsary to speak immediately upon the Subject of our present Meeting.

Brothers! Your true Friend & Brother Sr. John Johnson has for these many Months past sollicited to come up with his Regt. to your Country which the Genl. would most willingly have allowed, but for the great Want of Provision & the long Delay of the English-Fleet. - When these Difficulties were in some Measure remov'd he obtained the Gen.ls Leave & has come up with his own Regt. and other Troops to your Aſsistance.

Brothers! The Intelligence we recd. as we came up the R. St. Lawce. oblig'd us to determine on some immediate Measures for your Aid, or for Annoyance of the Enemy. when it was resolv'd & agreed to by the 7 Natns. of Canada, that we shou'd land at Aſserotus, & take our further Measures from thence, & Part of them with some of the Troops accordingly coasted along the Lake; but the Wind blew so hard that we with the Veſsels were oblig'd to put into this Place, and now would wish to know whether Sr. Wm. with his Troops can in your Opinion do any Thing this Fall, & where, & whether you do not think it proper that we meet our Friends at Aſserotus at all Events, & proceed from thence as shall there appear most adviseable. For my Part, Brothers! I think something may be done if we conduct our Councils with Secrecy & carry them into Execution with Vigor. Your Answer & determination hereupon is what must regulate our Operations.

After some Minutes Pause Dehagwendy rose & addreſs'd the whole of the Indns. repeating what had been said, & advising them to council among themselves the elder & younger Branches of the Confedcy. & come at once to a Conclusion, not like Sachems but as Warriors, & not to vary in Sentiments, with a good Deal of wholesome

Advice to the same Purpose agreeable to ancient Custom. –

After receiving some Pipes & Tobacco & a Dram they retired to consult in Private.

In the Evening they reported that the Senecas, Onandagaes & Mohocks had agreed to what was proposed, but that the Cayougas &c had come to no Determination as yet.

At Night, the Cayougas, Nanticokes, Conoys, Tuteloes &c came and in a long & friendly Speech congratulated Col.o Johnson on his safe Arrival assuring him of the Joy it had given to all their People who had long looked for him. They also recounted every thing that had happen'd in his Absence.

iday 8th. The   came to Col.o Johnson's Quarters in Order to perform the Condoleance more at large than they had done, for their Neglect of which they made a full Apology.

An Onandagae Chief was this Day buried & the Ceremony of Condoleance perform'd by Col.o Johnson.

aturday 9th. Col.o Johnson called together his Officers this Morning, ga them some necessary Cautions, read his Standing Orders to them and gave out their Commissions agreeable to the Authorities ve ed in him.

Several Meetings were held with the Ind.s who wanted to hea the Opinion of the younger Branch of the Confed.cy before they gave their Answer ab.t the Numbers to go.

Gave Orders to be in Readiness to Embark Tomorrow.

unday 10th. Found Reluctance in the Indians as to their

Determinations, owing to the Cayougas not entering warmly into Measures that might affect the Oneydas & some of the Onandagoes being of the same Disposition.

Major Butler remains to give a War Dance, finish Cloathing the Indns. & bring them up by Water & Capt. Brant to march his Party by Land. The Whole to rendezvous at Oswego.

Embarked at 6 P. M and arrived off Oswego the 13th at Night. Sir John in the small Sloop, put in to Ajerotus to acquaint the Inds. There of our Movements.

Thursday 14th. Colo. Johnson landed in the Forenoon the Provisions Stores &c, being all previously debark'd, & encamped on the Ground of the old trading Town. – Early in the Morning Capt. Nelles went out with 10 Inds. & Forresters on a Scout to the Falls & returned abt. 4 P. M. having seen no Body, nor discover'd any recent Tracks. –

The Indian Chiefs were very drunk & very troublesome to Day particularly Kiangarachta &c.

At Night most of the Boats with Sr. John Johnsons Regt. and the Detachment of the 34th. arrived and reported that abt. 30 Cayougas had come in to Ajerotus & had taken a

(Copy)

Quebec 6th Octr. 1779.

Sir

39

I received your several Letters on your way to Carleton Island, & was glad to hear You had got so far safe.–

altho' the rapid Progress of the Rebels rendered it impossible for Sir John Johnson to prevent the Mischief they have done in the Indian Country, his Expedition, I am persuaded will be attended with happy Effects, by confirming the Five Nations in the Sentiments I am glad to find they still entertain for Government.

Carleton Island being a Situation, the most favorable for sending out Scouts towards the Mohawk River, and intercepting the Enemy's Scouts from thence, and a Post that will now attract much of their attention, I wish to have a strong Party of the Five Nations, particularly Mohawks, who can be most depended upon, stationed there for the Winter & Spring, to keep Scouts continually out – they will likewise serve to keep the Missisagues

and

Colonel Johnson.

and other Indians resorting there in awe —
I therefore desire that after consulting with
Sir John Johnson and Colonel Bolton, You
will make Choice of such as it may be
thought will best answer this Purpose &
send them down with Sir John Johnson —
Captain Fraser will be stationed there,
who will take the best Care of them — I
should imagine that a stroke against the
Oneidas should be undertaken this Winter —
the Mohawks, and many of the Senecas
are well disposed to bring them to their
Senses, and they have had long Experience
that it cannot be accomplished by Persuasion.

Colonel Bolton has recommended
that a Pension of 100 dollars a Year, formerly
enjoyed by Soyawa, should be given to
Schenderachta, whose Conduct deserves every
Mark of Favor — I wish to have it bestowed
to Him as a Testimony of my Regard, and a
Reward for his Services —

I find that a very large quantity
of Merchants Goods are brought back from
the Carrying Place to Niagara, I should imagine
it would be worth the Merchants' while to
dispose of any Part of them You may want
for the Indians upon very reasonable Terms

rather than run the Risk of their lying there another Year, and perhaps loseing them interely.—

1119

To
Colonel Johnson
6th Octr. —

(Copy)

Quebec 7th October 1779

Sir

I am commanded by His Excellency Genl. Haldimand to acquaint you that He has received your Letter of the 4th Instant, and that he desires you will have as many of the hundred Warriors, remaining in the Province as poſsible, kept in readineſs to go upon a Scout, concealing from them, as before mentioned to you the Route — they are to take.

His Excellency likewise desires you will acquaint him in what condition the Indian goods, received by Mr Goddard, were in, when opened, and if the aſsortment was agreable to the requisition made — likewise that you will Estimate the quantity, and particular qualities of goods that may be wanted for the service of the ensuing year, agreably to the extracts from a letter of Mr Knox's annexed — and you will please to send a Duplicate of it, as the General, to guard against Accidents purposes sending one in each Frigate — The Fleet

Lieutenant Colonel Campbell

will sail earlier this Year than usual – His Excellency therefore desires you will send down to him the Estimates before the 20th Instant.

I am Sir &c

Signed/ R Mathews

"In Colonel Campbel's remarks of last Year, it is not — " said that those articles which he passes over without " observation are suitable and proper, but I am left " to suppose they are so, and accordingly I have made " the present Indent in respect to them an exact " Copy of the last.

"Should the like occasion call for a " supply against the next Year. Colonel Campbel " should send patterns of such articles as he wishes " for, and are not amongst those I have sent, for it is " not easy to describe a thing so exactly as that work- " men can make it as it is intended.

(Copy)

To

Lieu.t Colonel Campbel

at Montreal. - 7th Octr

BRITISH MUSEUM

Montreal the 11th october 1779

Sir

The Indians which your Excellency are to Employ soon, I will Endeavour to keep together and in Readineſs, But I request to know as soon as poſsible the Day you would wish them to aſsemble at St John's (or other place of Rendevouze) that I may have time to Collect those who are at a Distance, sutch as St Regis & St Francis, They are all warned But I would not Collect them too soon to avoid many unconveniences — Be aſsured Sir that neither the Indians or any Others shall now, or on any other Occasion know from me any thing Secret you have, or may Be pleased to communicate to me. The Presents

His Excellency
General Haldimand

For Indians arrived here in Very good Condition, But they are not at all agreable to the Requisition made last year, and the Blue Stronds (a principle article) are the worst in quality I ever saw — I now Inclose you two Coppies of a List of Goods proper for Indn presents for the Ensuing year, and I request your Excellency will Recommend that they Be of the Best Quality (particularly the Stronds & Moltons for it is a Reflection upon Government that the goods in the Kings Stores are worse than those in the Store of any Merchant in town

A party of thirty five Indians came in two days ago from the upper part of the German Flats they Burnt about ten houses, and Barns

His Excellency
General Haldimand

with two Miles, they Brought here
four poor Dincen Farmers, who
know nothing at all of what is
going on upon the north River
nor Indeed any where Else —
Captn Fraser wou'd Be glade
to know where he is to winter
that he may Provide accord
ingly. I have the honor to be
with Due Respect

Sir

your Excellency's most obt
and most humble Servant
John Campbell

From △ 1779

Lieut. Colonel Campbell

11th Octr. — Recd. 13th.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Montreal the 14th October 1779

Sir

I herewith Inclose Your Excellency Extracts of Letters which I received from Major De Peyster two days agoe, I am sorry he will Be Disapointed in the goods which he Expected from here this Fall, as those from England arrived too Late to Be Sent, Especially as some of them articles must Be made up here before they are forwarded there all that I can Doe for that post now is to cause the goods Be made up in the Course of the Winter and Send them as Early as possible in the Spring. The Invoices of the goods from England I will return to your Office By the first

His Excellency
General Haldemand

Favourable oportunity, Colonel Guy Johnson Demanded the half of the whole presents Except the arms and ammunitions which he Recd; But I'm sure will not Be near sufficient to Cloath the Indians that will have Demands upon him, the articles of Blankets, Strouds, and Moltons he will Be very Scarce of. I received information yesterday that fourty St Regis Indns of the party that was with Captn Fraser are Returnd to their Village - I have the honor to Be with Due Respect

Sir

your Excellencys most obt
and most humble servt
John Campbell

British Museum

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c &c &c

From 1779

Lieut. Colonel Campbell

14th Octr. -- Recd. 16th.

Oswego October 15th 1779. —

Sir,

Since my last of 30th September from Carleton Island I have been at Niagara, and have held several Meetings with the Indians who support their Misfortunes with much firmness, and after a few days agreed to enter into the measures propos'd on which I presume Sir John Johnson will write you more fully as they have been necessarily changed from their first Objects from the Intelligency we have received which induced Sir John to go to Aserotus, (our first intended Rendezvous) and from thence to this place where he is just Arrived. — Sayenguaraghta, the Seneca Chief with a few others came with me here, & I have sent out Scouts from hence; The rest are coming up & may be expected in the course of this day & tomorrow, — those from Aserotus I hope are near at hand, but still there will be some necessary delays, which are unlucky at this advanced Season, when our Objects must be greatly limitted. — I thought it necessary to come as far as this place to afford my Aid in making out

such

His Excellcy
General Haldimand.

such Detachment of Indians as may be found wanting for any imediate Services, and I propose to keep them employed all along the Frontiers during the Course of the Winter, to which end, as well as on Accot of Provisions, I cou'd wish to employ a body of Indians from Carleton Island, during that Season, & send them with proper Officers to that place in due time.-

I hope to be honor'd with your Excellency's Commands on any Occurring Subject and I have the Honor to be with great respect

Sir, Your Excellency's
most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
G Johnson

from A 1779
Col. Johnson
15th Octr Recd 23d

17

Oswego 15th October 1779.

Johnson

Sir

I was honored with your Excellency's letter of the 26th of Sept. the day before yesterday at Oyerotus, and it is the first I have received since I left La Chine — In my last to your Excellency from Carleton Island I acquainted you with my intention of Rendezvousing at Oyerotus, and that I had detached a part of the Troops with the whole of the Canada Indians under the Command of the Captains [illegible] and Fraser in Batteaus by the Way of Oswego, to wait there as the Vessels would not contain the whole, and the Boats would be very Necessary for any service we might proceed on. We embarked from Carleton Island the fourth Inst. and were Compelled to put into Niagara the day following by a very strong gale at North, where we were detained by Counciling and Advising with the Indians &c till the tenth, when it was agreed upon to Meet at this place with a View to attempt the destruction of the Oneidas & their Villages, it being the Opinion of Colonel Bolton and every person consulted with upon the Occasion, that the difficulties attending the transporting of Artillery and Provision together with the lateness of the Season would render any attempt to dislodge the Enemy from Genesee very uncertain and perilous —

Major Butler is following in Boats with some Rangers and Indians, but means to return from hence to Niagara — Joseph was to set out from Niagara with the Six Nation Warriors accompanied by several Indian Officers, they expected to be here in about Eight days from that time — I went to Oswego in the Sloop Caldwell the day before yesterday where I found the Troops and Indians had arrived only an hour before me. After having acquainted them with our intentions of meeting here and inviting a Number of Cayugas (whom I found there) to accompany us, I left them and arrived here this Morning — Captain Fraser and the Indians are not yet arrived but expected this Evening —

Colonel Bolton has informed me that he will be able to Complete the Detachments of the 34th Chasseurs and Rangers, provided provision be pushed forward to Niagara. I shall therefore Order those Detachments upon my return to Niagara, with the Remainder and as many Indians as I can draw off I shall return to Carleton Island, and there wait your Excellency's further Orders —

Should nothing turn up to prevent the intended expedition, I shall re-embark such provisions and Artillery as may be thought necessary for the Service, in the Boats I have with me, with about four hundred Men exclusive of Indians who go in Canoes &c, the Remainder will go by land, and endeavour to surround the Village, getting between it and Fort Stanwix with a strong Body, which I hope they will be able to effect before they can be informed of our intentions tho' I have some suspicions they may have been informed of it from Niagara However I shall move expeditiously and keep out such Scouts as I hope will enable us to effect our business with Secrecy, and if possible I shall send a strong Body of Canada Indians under proper Officers through the Country to [illegible] the Destroying as much of the Country as they can with Safety to themselves.

I have enclosed to your Excellency a State of the several Detachments under my Command together with a Copy of a Letter from Captain Duncan then Commanding Officer of a Detachment to Doctor Connor, Ordering him in Arrest, and tho it happens at a very unlucky time, I am under the Necessity of Ordering the Doctor to return to Carleton Island till your Excellency's pleasure be known on that head.

I have the honor to be
with great Regard
Your Excellency's
most Obedient and
most Humble Servant John Johnson

His Excellency
General Haldimand

Since finishing my Letter Captain Duncan has informed me that Doctor Connor has made such an Apology as is highly Satisfactory to him

From Sir J. Johnson 1779
Oswego 15th Octr Recd 23d

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the foregoing report, prepare a letter to the minister plenipotentiary of these United States at the court of France.

Resolved, That the remainder of the report be postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1779

A memorial from Lieutenants Stediford and Bicker, was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Commander in Chief.

Resolved, That three members be added to the committee on the report from the commissioners on General Arnold's accounts:

The members chosen, Mr. [James] Forbes, Mr. [William] Sharpe, and Mr. [William] Fitzhugh.

Congress was resolved into a committee of the whole, and after some time, the President resumed the chair and Mr. [Daniel of St. Thomas] Jenifer reported, that the committee have had under consideration the subject and papers referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desire leave to sit again.

Resolved, That on Monday next Congress be resolved into a committee of the whole to consider farther the subjects referred to them.

The Committee on the Treasury brought in a report; Whereupon,

TREASURY OFFICE, *October 16th., 1779.*

The Committee on the Treasury, having considered a letter, of the 2nd instant, from Brigadier General Jas. Clinton, Beg leave to report:

That the Revd Mr S. Kirkland, at the beginning of the present contest, was a missionary amongst the Six Nations of Indians, appointed by the Society of Scotland, for the propagation of the

Gospel, with an annual salary of one hundred and thirty pounds sterling; That Congress sensible of the Zeal and good services of M^r^ Kirkland did for one year advance him the same sum, For the second year three hundred dollars, and for the third and fourth years four hundred dollars exclusive of three hundred advanced him as a gratuity for extra services; That lately, upon the Western Expedition, while with General Sullivan, by his particular desire, he had several small articles advanced to him by order of General Sullivan and eight dollars a day; That the services of M^r^ Kirkland amongst the Indian Nations since the commencement of this war, his attendance on treaties with them and the various long and tedious journies he has made at the risk of his health and life (during the greatest part of which time he hath supported himself and his own horse) in the opinion of this Board justly entitle him to the consideration of Congress, whereupon the Committee further beg leave to report:

Resolved, That a warrant issue on the treasurer, in favour of the Rev. Mr. S. Kirkland, for six thousand dollars, and that the clothier general be instructed to provide him with a suit of cloaths, a hatt, linnen, sufficient for four shirts, two pair of stockings, and a pair of shoes, to be in full for his past services and expences.

That the Reverend Mr. S. Kirkland be appointed chaplain to the garrison of Fort Schuyler, and the other posts established in that quarter, with the pay and subsistence of a brigade chaplain, continuing at the same time to pay as great attention to the Oneidas, and other Indians contiguous to them, as may be consistent with the abovementioned appointment.[1]

The Committee appointed to prepare a letter to the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at the Court of France, brought in a draught, which was agreed to as follows:

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[1] The last two paragraphs are in the writing of George Bond. The report, dated October 16, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 136, III, folio 733. It also contained the paragraph on Marsteller, printed under October 21, p. 1194, *post*.

In Congress, Philadelphia,
16th October, 1779.

Sir:

Congress have appointed the Honble John Jay, Esq. Minister Plenipotentiary, for negotiating a treaty of amity and commerce and of alliance between his Catholic Majesty and the United States of America. And the Hon'ble John Adams, Esq. Minister Plenipotentiary to treat with his Britannic Majesty.

William Carmichael, Esq. is appointed Secretary to the first, and Francis Dana Esq., Secretary to the last abovementioned embassy.

Mr Jay and Mr Carmichael will embark on board the *Confederacy*, Continental ship of war, now in Delaware ready to sail for France.

Mr Adams and Mr Dana will probably take their passages on board *le Sensible*, one of his Most Christian Majesty's Frigates, in the Harbour of Boston.

The salaries annexed to these appointments respectively are £2500 Stg. per annum to the Minister and £1000 Stg. to the Secretaries; and in order to enable these gentlemen to enter without embarrassment upon the duties of their several functions, I am authorized by an Act of Congress of the Inst., a certified copy of which will accompany this, to request you, Sir, to take the most effectual means for supplying them with two thousand Louis d'or in distributions proportioned to their respective salaries, and to assure you on the faith of Congress, that speedy and proper measures will be adopted, both for repaying that sum and for establishing a fund for the future support of all the embassies of these United States in Europe.

You will likewise find enclosed a certified copy of an act of Congress of the 4th instant, by which you will be informed that your salary is also to be two thousand five hundred pounds sterling per annum; and that John Laurens, Esq. a member of the house of representatives for the State of South Carolina and lieutenant colonel in the army of the United States is appointed by Congress to be secretary to the Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of France.

I have the honor to be &c. &c.[1]

Adjourned to 10 oClock on Monday.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Henry Laurens, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 25, I, folio 163. It was printed in the *Secret Journals, Foreign*, Vol. II, p. 280.

West point Octo: 17 1779.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit Your Excellency Copies (No 1 & 2) of letters to me from Lt Col. Van Dyck and Mr James Deane the former Commanding at Fort Schuyler the latter Agent of Indian Affairs in that Quarter together with Copies (No 3 & 4) of mine in answer. Also an Extract (No 5) of a letter I had the honor to adress the Commander in Chief on the subject matter of the letter from Fort Schuyler with extract Copy No 6 of the Generals answer.

Your Excellency will please to observe from the tenor of my letters to the General, Colo Van Dyck and Mr Deane that I conceived Congress had authorized General Washington in conjunction with the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to settle the terms of pacification if it should be thought adviseable to accomodate matters with them. I did not discover my mistake until my arrival here when I was furnished with a Copy of the letter from which I drew the Extract No 5 this I hope will apologize for not addressing myself to Congress in the first Instance

It would be presumption in me to suppose that I could advise any reasons to enforce the necessity of a peace with the Indians which have not already occurred to Congress I have therefore only to entreat of that Honble Body inclined to listen to the application in favor of the Cayugas, or to any that may be made by the Senecas or others in their behalf, that the Commissioners may be furnished with instructions directing what stipulations to insist upon in the Treaty.

The delay already occasioned by the Circumstances above mentioned seems to render a speedy decision on the part of Congress necessary least the advancing inclement Season should render a Conference impracticable.

If I am honored with a speedy Answer Your Excellency will be pleased to direct it to the Head Quarters of the Army where it will probably find me

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your Excellency's
most obedient
Humble Servant
Ph. Schuyler

His Excellency Simon Huntington
Esq: &c &c

Letter from G. Schuyler
Octr 17. 1779

Read 22.
Refd to Mr Forbes
– Mr Sharpe
– Mr Morris

6 papers enclosed. —

Fort Schuyler Octr: 1st 1779

D. Sir

According to your order have forwarded the Letters to Colo: Butler by two Oneidas Indians they have promised to bring me an Answer as soon as possible

Some of the Oneida Chiefs have been with me yesterday to inform me that a number of the Cayugas are very desirous to come in and make peace but as Gen Sullivan has ordered them to repair to his Camp at Tioga which they seem not inclined to do have not given them farther Answer, they are very desirous to come in a body to the Commiſsioners at Albany If that is proved by you please to send me your Answer and I shall acquaint them of the Same

I am &c

Corn: V Dyck

Hon: Gen. Schuyler

[illegible]

Colo: V. Dyke
to
Gnl. Schuyler.
No. 1

Fort Schuyler Octo: 1st 1779

Sir

The Onondago Prisoners who during the Summer past Escaped from Albany have within these few days made their Appearance near Oneida The Onondaga Sachems were here yesterday to Inform me of it, they offered to redeem them by Surrendering some part of their Country to the united States, as they have none of our people Prisoners in their power, But as I am not Authorized to treat with them upon the Subject have refered them to the decision of the honble Board of Commissioners, And being Ignorant of any Instructions respecting the Prisoners should they be found, have directed the Onondagas to bring them into Oneida and keep them untill the ~~decision~~ determination of the Commissioners respecting them may be known

A Party of the Cayugas I believe begin to be Seriously disposed to treat of peace with us, — Gen: Sullivan has directed them to repair Immediately with their families to Tyoga whence they will be Conducted to Philadelphia, I cannot however but be of Opinion that more of them would come in could they have liberty to bring their families to Oneida & to treat with the Commissioners at Albany

Your ob:

Genl: Schuyler

James Dean

From
Jas Deane
to
Genl Schuyler
No. 2

Albany Octo 7 1779

D. Sir

Your favor of the 1st Instant was delivered me yesterday morning.

No Immediate Answer can be given the Oneida Chiefs relative to a peace with the Cayugas as Genl Washington must be consulted on the Occasion to whom I have already written: — My Private Opinion is not to treat on the Subject unless with at least a Majority of the Nation otherwise every Compact they may make will be violated by them under pretence that those we treated with could only act for themselves and not bind the nation hence they only would reap advantage and we none — I wish they should be strongly Impressed with an Idea that if peace is granted them they ought to consider it as a particular favor done them and to which they are by no means

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Entitled, and that therefore they should
Intreat th[e] Solemnly & Submissively

As soon as I hear from his
Excellency General Washington
I shall write you further on the
Subject I am &c

Ph: Schuyler

Lt Col: V Dyke

From
Br. G. Schuyler
to
Coll V Dyke
No 3

Albany Octr 7th 1779

D Sir

Yesterday I was favored with Your Letter of the 1st Instant—

You will please to Inform the Onondagas who reside at Oneida that those who have Escaped from hence must positively be delivered up to us whenever we may demand them, that for the present we will Suffer them to remain at Oneida they being responsible for them to us—

Colo. V. Dyke Informs me that the Cayugas who have Signifyed an Inclination to come in are desirous of repairing to this place in a body to treat of peace; Peace can only be Given them, Jointly by General Washington and the Commissioners so that no Immediate Answer can be given to the proposal, but altho I wish that they should be Encouraged to apply for peace yet my private Opinion is not to treat on the Subject unless with a Majority of the nation, as I cannot conceive that it would answer Any valuable purpose as they only would be benifited & not we; I wish them to be made sensible that if peace is given them, it will proceed merely from our humanity: that they must Consider it as a particular favor and give such security as we shall require for their Adherence to the Conditions on which it may be Granted.—

If we permitted them to bring their families Immediately to Oneida they might be led to Imagine that we were Eager for a peace, a Sentiment which I would not by Any means wish they should Entertain. You will therefore Signify to the Oneidas that th would not be prudent with respect to themselves, nor agreeable to us that they should, until they the Cayugas have Solemnly Intreated for peace and that we have Consented to treat with them, but you may privately urge the Oneidas to Stimulate the Cayugas to send a belt by some of their own people praying that a treaty may be held with their nation for the purpose of reconciliation

I am &c

Ph: Schuyler

from
Gen. Schuyler
To
Jas. Deane.
No. 4

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Schuyler
to his Ex: Gen: Washington dated
Albany Octo 6th 1779

"I have just received letters from Colo:
" Van Dyck and Mr. Deane copies whereof are
" Inclosed. The letter to Colo: Butler I wrote
" at the request of Governor Clinton to
" procure information with respect to
" Colo Hathorn and the Militia taken
" with him in July last at Minisinks
" I also took occasion to ask him if he
" was empowered to treat of an Exchange
" of such prisoners as were in the Indian
" Country.

"I shall request Colo: V Dyck and Mr.
" Deane to inform the Cayugas and
" the Oneidas that the Commissioners
" cannot decide upon their proposal
" until Your Excellency's pleasure is
" known; A real and permanent peace
" with the Indians I conceive would
" be greatly beneficial to the States and
" it appears to me very probable that
" if it is granted to the Cayugas the

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" Senecas will also make application
" for the purpose.– If Your Excellency
" should think proper to enter into
" a treaty with the Cayugas and Comm
" the business to the Commissioners of
" Indian Affairs I as one would wish
" uninformed as we are of the views
" and Intentions of Congress with respe
" to the Indians & the Country to be
" fully Instructed on the Occasion."

5
from
Ph. Schuyler
to
His Excellency
Gl Washington
No. 5—

"Extract of a letter from His Excellency Genl Washington to Genl Schuyler dated Head Quarters West point Sept 12th 1779 -

" As to the other point - the treaty with
" the Cayugas, I can only give my private
" Opinion which Coincides with Yours, so
" far as it respects the policy of making
" a General peace with them and the other
" Indians of the Six nations, But as to
" particular terms I think it will be
" proper for you and the Gentlemen
" in the Commission to take the directions
" of Congress should they incline to an
" Accomodation"

From
His Ex: Geo: Washington
To
Genl Schuyler
No 6

(Copy)

Quebec 13th Octr 1779

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 30th Sept advising of your having drawn a Bill of £3500 for the Purchase of Indian Presents, which I have honored.

Your having been in Want of an additional Officer, & Mr Wilkinson being a Person so well qualified for that Service, I cannot but approve of your having appointed Him, at the same Time I must recommend to your serious Attention, to avoid as much as possible increasing the Number upon that List, already very great — as well, in every other Respect, to moderate the very enormous Expence attending the Department, which seems so much threatened this Year by the distruction of the Indian Villages — the only Loss of any material Consequence, that appears to me they can have sustained, is in the Article of Provisions, which falls immediately upon the Store — they are cloathed every Year — there may be some additional Expence on this Account to their Women & Children, but I cannot conceive why it should be so great as is imagined — I trust however to your Prudence and Zeal for His Majesty's Interest, that the strictest Oeconomy possible be observed in every Branch of the Department, as far as is consistent with the Good of the Service; in which, & the discharge of ~~your duty~~ every Part of your Duty, You will find me always ready

Colonel Johnson.

[illegible]

ready, and desirous to afford that Support You have requested.—

I am at a Loss to know what You mean by that Part of your Letter wherein You say that You enter upon your Duty under many Restrictions, which You hope will no longer exist, and that, at a very unfavorable Period— Whatever I recommended to You for the general Rule of your Conduct, I judged expedient for the King's Service— Why You did not enter upon your Duty at an earlier Period, I have not to account for— I am far from thinking this, an unfavorable one, for the Five Nations notwithstanding that they have been driven from their Villages, with the Loss of them, remain unshaken in their Fidelity to Governme and are ready to undertake whatever may be proposed in Support of it. I must here take Occasion to observe that during your Absence, while Major Butler has had the sole direction of your department, under the Inspection of the Commanding Officer at Niagara, that Service has been carried on without any Difficulty and to the best Advantage.—

I am &c.

(signed) Fred: Haldimand.

To (Copy) [illegible] 1779

Colonel Johnson

18th Octr.

Copy

Entered fol. 59—

Oswego October 22.d 1779.—

Sir,

I had the Honor to write to your Excellency on the 15th Inst from this place, wherein I mentioned among other things my Wish to have some Indians and their Officers at Carleton Island, and Yesterday I had the pleasure to find on receiving your Dispatch of the 6th of this Inst that my Idea Coincided with your Excellencys on the Subject,— I had intended to have sent one of my Deputys to that place, but shall send a Captain and two or three Lieutenants of Indians If Capt Fraser remain there to take care of them, as one of my Deputys will in that case be unneceſsary tho perhaps your Excellency will be of opinion that one of my own Officers will be most agreable with the Six Nations,— The greater part of the Mohocks and some of the rest will doubtleſs be prevailed on to go to Carleton Island, and this day I shall arrange that matter, as the Circumstances Sir John has aſsigned as well as the Orders he has received, render it neceſsary for him to put his Troops into Winter quarters;—

The Indians are in general in good Spirits considering their misfortunes, and with care are likely to do good Service yet, but the only Object which Sir John Johnson coud have in View at this advanced Season, was against one of their own Castles, and that is

His Excell.ey
General Haldimand.

Lieut. Irvin's Declaration
Recd. 19th. Octr. 79.

The Chiefs and principal Warriors of the Mingoes, Hurons, Delawares and Shawanese. To their Father Captain Lernoult Commanding at D'troit. Upper Shawanese Village October 20th 1779.

Father

We are now returned Home from putting your advice into execution against your Enemies, The Great Spirit has favoured us with some success and it was our Intention to have Paid you a Visit upon it, but having received some Information which gives us strong reason to believe that a large Body of Virginians are preparing to come against us from Fort Pitt, has determined us to stand upon our Guard; requesting that as soon as you receive this Speech you will rise and come to our Assistance you have promised to assist us from time to time since the begining of this War therefore we can't doubt your complying at this critical juncture your failing will intirely destroy our hopes hereafter. But Father be strong and comply with our desire Detroit can never be in danger whilst you Stand with us between it & the Enemy.

for in assisting us you defend it, we hope therefore
your dispatch will be so great as to reach us before
the Enemy; in all probability the next account you
have from us will be their being in our Neighbour-
=hood. The Coschawkeng Indians are more than
ever in their Interest they have help'd to shed the
blood of our Friends to the Westward which makes
us the more anxious for your sending as many
troops as you can spare if only to protect our
Women & Children while we harrass the
Enemy, we hope to see a day that those
injuries will not pass with impunity even
from those of our own colour. We have
also to request that you send us as soon as
possible some supplies we are in much Need
and the season advancing we hope you'll
be so good as send them to Sandusky by Water
in a small Vessel where we can receive &
divide them ourselves. In testimony of our
sincerity we present you with this War Belt
which will strengthen you in complying with our
request as it's of your own manufacturing &
so soon as you have fully considered it's
contents

contents hope to see it returned ꝑ Bearer to our Satisfaction.

A. Black Belt & Sons

1779.

Recd 30th Octr 1778

Speech from the Shawanese
Village to Major Lernoult
20th Octr – Recd 26th Novr

BRITISH MUSEUM

From 1779

Lieu.t Co.l Campbell

21.st Oct.r Re.d 23.d —

Indian Speech

& Abstract of Acct.s

to 24th June

Paroles des Sept Villages adreſsées au Lieutenant Colonel Campbell Sur Jntendant des Sauvages — Añoncées par Oſsetagoa Grand Chef du Sault St. Louis

Mon Pere

Nous venons tant de la Part de nos Anciens que de nos Jeunes Gens Guerriers et Femmes Chefreſses, et nous remercions tous ensemble le Maître de la Vie de te voir bien portant.

Les deux Branches de Porcelaines que nous te présentons te font voir que nous sommes dans le Cas de parler de Choses Sérieuses, nous te prions d'y faire Attention et d'ouvrir tes Oreilles afin que nos Paroles puiſsent y entrer, Nous commençons à présent par t'ouvrir notre Coeur, nous te regardons comme la Personne qui tient celle du Roi, ainsi tu es notre seul Soutien: Nous esperons qu'en cette Qualité tu voudras bien nous regarder comme ses Enfans propres.

Voici un Colier qui représente le Roi, qui est l'Arbre qui tient les Sept Branches, qui sont les Sept Villages, et toi le Colonel Campbell fait le huitième.

Nous allons présentement te développer nos Sentimens, nous esperions que le Général Haldimand viendroit à Montreal, et que nous pourrions lui parler, mais nous voyons bien que nous sommes déchus de nos Esperances pour le présent, te regardant toi même son Représentant, nous t'adreſsons en cette Qualité nos Demandes en te priant de nous écouter avec toute ton Attention.

Tu vois dans ce Colier la Personne du Roi qui nous tien par la Main, par Consequent qui nous a adopté pour ses Enfans du Moment qu'il nous la présenté, nous lavons accepté, mais à Condition que lon nous permettroit de suivre toujours la Religion dans laquelle nous sommes Nés, telles étoient nos Conventions dans le Tems / Aujourdhui nous voila presque tous privés de Missionnaires, et toi que nous regardons comme l'Arbre qui tient les Sept Branches, nous te prions de t'interesser en notre faveur, puisque tu es le Soutient des Sept Villages.

Nous ne te parlons point d'un Cœur faché, quoique nous perdions chaque Jour de nos Guerriers pour le Service de notre Grand Pere le Roi, C'est lui même qui nous l'ordonne et nous sommes ses Obéissans; Mais ce qui nous afflige et dont nous sommes extrêmement Sensibles, c'est que nos Jeunes Gens se trouvent dans le Cas de se débaucher et pourroient par la suite devenir aveugles et s'écarter de l'Arbre; pour prevenir pareils Malheurs qui pourroient rejaillir sur nos Têtes, nous te prions de nous procurer par ton Moyen l'Assistance de Missionnaires dans nos différens Villages pour nous maintenir dans la bonne Route: Ce même Colier te démontre que nous te parlons aux Noms des Sept Villages dont tu formes le huitième, c'est en cette Consideration que nous te supplions de ne point nous abandonner, mais d'être toujours notre bon Pere.

Voici un Second Colier de la Part de nos Jeunes Gens Guerriers qui tend à t'engager de t'interesser d'autant plus a nôtre Demande.

Voici un troisième présenté de la part des Femmes Cheffesses pour te supplier de t'interesser pour le même Sujet, et le Maître de la Vie Sçait que tout ce que nous disons ici tous ensemble part d'un Cœur Sincère et ne tend que pour le Bien.

Nous ne nous flatons point de pouvoir obtenir nos Demandes Subitement eu Egard à la Charité des Missionnaires dans ce Païs — C'est pourquoi nous désirerions que tu voulusse faire parvenir le Sujet de nos Demandes avec nos Coliers à notre Grand Père d'Angleterre./.

Montreal 20. October
1779

A true Coppy as it has been
Interpreted to me
John Campbell

BRITISH MUSEUM

Paroles des Sept
Villages adressées au
Lieut Colonel Campbell
le 20: d'Octobre 1779.

Niagara Octr 21st 1779

Sir

I inclose your Excellency some Letters and papers which I have lately received from Captain Lernoult, they will inform you of the disagreeable Situation that Governor Hamilton and his Friends are in at Williamsburg, however I still hope the Enemy will not carry matters so far as to put their threats into Execution. The 11th inst. Sir John Johnson with the Troops he brought here, the Light Company of the 34th Regiment, Rangers and the Principal Indian Chiefs embarked on board the Haldimand Seneca and Caldwell, and sailed in the Evening for Oswego, Joseph with a Number of the Six Nations went by Land to the Three Rivers, the Place of Rendezvous: I believe determined to cut off the Oneida Village, and to attempt something more if a favourable Opportunity offered, but as the Season is so far advanced I think it will be scarce possible. Sir John Johnson is an Officer of so worthy a Character, and has the Kings Service so much at heart, that I am almost certain we shall never have any difference about Rank, that can in the least injure the Service, I am only concerned it was not in my power to pay him all that attention he is so justly entitled to — before he left this Post I proposed after the Expedition was over, to send the Detachment of the 47th to Detroit, the three Companies of the 34th to remain here during the Winter, and his own Corps with the Rangers to reinforce the Garrison of Carleton Island, but the inclosed Distribution will inform you of what we had settled until your Excellency's pleasure was known; the Baggage of the three Companies of the 34th is here, and part of their wood cut; that of the Germans is at Carleton Island — I intend to send down every Lame and Useless person belonging to the Kings Regiment and Rangers, and request they may be taken proper care of. I also hope to prevail on some of the Indians to go down to Montreal and Carleton Island, where I have promised them they shall receive more provisions, and as good Cloathing as those will who remain here, The Distribution of Provisions for the upper Posts I have not as yet received, therefore wish it may be sent up as soon as possible, having forwarded a great Quantity to Detroit, where it is impossible they can run the same risk of being distressed, as we may do here — I forgot to mention that Lieutenant Colliton with the Detachment of the Royal and German Artillery, with two Six-pounders, two Grasshoppers and two Cochorns, joined the Troops under the command of Sir John Johnson, Lieutenant Tirret remains here with one Bombardier, two Gunners and ten Matrosses. but as we have eight Guns mounted more than we formerly had, it will be necessary to detain some of the Detachment at Detroit until others are sent up, which I hope Colonel Maclean will approve of — I shall do every thing in my power to prevail on the Six Nations to settle on the Banks of the Genesee, and Joseph has promised to assist me —

On Sir John Johnson's arrival here I recommended Navy Hall as a proper Place for his Troops to encamp at, Captain Andrews also made him an offer of his house, and the Seamens Barracks for his People to cook in, which he readily accepted of, nor did I interfere with his command more than to give him all the Assistance in my power — I make no doubt you have received Letters from him before this time — Your Excellency's Letters of the 22 and 26th of September and 6th of October I have received by the Seneca, and the Haldimand is in Sight with the Detachment of the 47th on board, when the Troops arrive for this Post I shall send them to Detroit — It is impossible a General Court Martial can assemble this year, I have therefore given Lieutenant Glenie leave to return to Montreal, as he has Business of the utmost Consequence to settle there, which I hope will meet with your Approbation — By the last Letters from Capt: Caldwell I have reason to suspect the Cayugas and some of the Delawares will make peace with the Rebels, they lay the whole Blame of their Villages being destroyed to Major Butlers Account, and even threaten there should be an advance into their Country, but if the rest of the Nations remain firm we have little to fear from their Menaces — I should be glad to be informed what Vessels are to winter here, and at Carleton Island as we have not received (as far as I can learn) any Orders or Instructions whatever concerning those Matters — I have received Nine Batteaux out of the twelve your Excellency ordered for this Post, the half of which are useless for want of a Carpenter, I am therefore obliged to send Mr. Coleman an order in writing for one to be sent here as soon as possible, as Major Nairnes order was not thought sufficient, It is strange this Post should be so entirely deprived of all assistance in the Naval Department, for if a Vessel should be in distress, or any Accident should happen to one of them, It is not in my power to give her the least assistance —

I have not the least doubt from Reports made to me by Prisoners but there is a Correspondence carried on with the Rebels by some persons in Canada, for there is not a single man or Gun in the upper Posts or any thing done in Quebec or Montreal that the Enemy are not informed of, that there are Indians often cloathed at this Post in their Interest I am certain of, nor is it possible to prevent it — The Rebels knew of Troops coming up from Canada, for which reason I sent the Light Compy. of the Kings in Batteaux to the Genesee, and on the arrival of the Light Company of the 34th. and Detachment of Royal Emigrants I ordered them to march by Land to join Major Butler, This with the Reports I spread of a Number of Troops being on their way from Carleton Island in order to land at the Genesee and cut off their Retreat, I believe in some measure prevented Mr. Sullivans advancing farther, as well as doing all the Mischief he intended, for several Corn fields even in sight of the Road they cut are still safe, and not in the least damaged; the only Scout of a Lieut. and thirty men they sent out were entirely cut off, after which they marched with the utmost Caution — believe me Sir, if these upper Posts are not reinforced and Plenty of Provisions forwarded, you will in all probability lose them in the Spring, unless some thing Extraordinary happens in our favour, which I have little hopes of from the Reports made to me — however Your Excellency may rest assured the Kings Regiment will do their duty, and I hope in such a manner as to meet Your Approbation —

I am with the Greatest Respect

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Obliged Servant

Mason Bolton

P.S.

I am just now informed that Miss Molly is arrived, her company for many reasons was by no means wished for, but as I shall not interfere with Colonel Guy Johnson's Department, of course shall have few visits from her — I must not here omit returning your Excellency my best thanks for relieving me from the trouble of Indian Accounts and Naval Accounts at Detroit, which have often given me more Anxiety and uneasiness, than I have words to express —

M.B.

BRITISH MUSEUM

1779

From Lt. Col. Bolton

21st Octr. Recd. 3d Novr.

His Excellency General Haldimand —

Distribution of Troops in the upper Country.

Niagara & its Dependencies.

	Rank & File	
King's Regiment	267	
34th	162	
Rangers	150	
Royal Artillery	13	592

Detroit.

King's Regiment	180	
47th	138	
Rangers	50	
Royal Artillery	13	381

Michilimackinac.

King's Regiment	67	
Royal Artillery	2	69

Carleton Island.

Royal H. Emigrants	96	
Royal N: York Regt	200	
Yagars	200	
Royal Artillery	5	501
	Total	1,543

N.B. The Rangers amount only to 200 men fit for Duty.

Mason Bolton Lt. Col.

Distribution of Troops
in the upper Country —

1779

Inclosed in Col.o Boltons letter of
the 21st October —

Montreal the 21st october 1779

Sir

I now transmitt to your Excellency a State of Expences Incurr'd in the Indian Department to the 24th June 1779 I would have sent it By the Last poast but that I was interrupted By a number of Indians from the Lake of the two Mountains

Yesterday a Deputation from the Different villages of Caughnawage, the Lake, St Regist and St Francies Spoke to me on the Business contained in the Speech which I herewith Inclose to your Excellency, and I Beg Leave to recommend their Request to your Serious attention, as I am certain It would Be much for the Interest of Government If Missionarys Could Be Procured for their Villages I have the honor to Be with Due Respect

Sir

your Excellencys most Obedient
and most humble Servant
John Campbell

His Excellency
General Haldimand

BRI[illegible] [illegible]SEU[illegible]

Sir   Camp at Oswego 22. Octr 1779.

I have been honored with your Excellency's letters of the 6th and 10th Instant, and I am happy to find that my Conduct has met with Your Approbation — Your Excellency has been fully acquainted with our intention in coming to this place, I hope it may prove a favorable diversion, but I am sorry to acquaint you that nothing could be attempted owing to the lateness of the Season, Josephs being not yet arrived with the Six Nation Warriors, the Wavering disposition of those present, and the want of Intelligence of the Situation of place, I hope it may prove a favorable diversion but I am sorry to acquaint you that Nothing could be attempted owing to the lateness of the Season, Josephs being not yet arrived with the Six Nation Warriors, the Wavering disposition of those present, and the want of Intelligence of the Situation of the Enemy — Nothing shall be left undone to prevail upon as many of the Indians as possible to move down the Country from this place and Major Butler will return to Niagara for the same purpose, it is imagined the most of the Mohawks and Onondagas will gladly accept the proposal, and I believe many others will follow their example. —

I expect to leave this in about three days for Carleton Island, the Chasseurs and Rangers will move off for Niagara at the same time.

Brigadier McLean must have been misinformed relative to the detention of the Vessels on my account and their carrying only Troops, as they were only detained by contrary Winds and had about Nine hundred Barrels on Board—

I am much Obliged to your Excellency for your permission to return to Canada and hope for the pleasure of soon paying my respects to you in person—

I have the honor to be
with great Regard
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient

Return Omitted being sent before.

of soon paying my
respects to you in person —

Return Omitted being
sent before.

I have the honor to be
with great Regard
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient
And most Humble Servant
John Johnston

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I am much Obliged to your Excellency for your permission to return to Canada and hope for the pleasure of soon paying my respects to you in person—

Return Omitted being
sent before.

I have the honor to be
with great Regard
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient

hope for the pleasure of soon paying my respects to you in person—

Returns Omitted being sent before.

I have the honor to be
with great Regard
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
and most Humble Servant
John Johnson

From △ 1779

Sir John Johnson

Oswego 22d Octr

Recd 30th

Carleton Island, Septem.r 30th 1779

Sir

After having been neceſsiated to stop for a day and an half at St Regis, I arrived here two days since with above Two hundred people of which 120 are Fighting Indians, the rest Officers & White-men, with some Squaws and Children, the latter much leſs in number, than has been usual in movements with the Six Nations, and as I have been in gre want of an Additional Officer at the present Exigence, I have appointed Mr Wilkinson a Lieutenant, a Gentleman who served under, and is well recommended to me by Sir John Johnson, hoping from the neceſsity of it, your Excellency will honor him with your approbation

The Indians on receipt of the disagreable news of their Country (which some of their people brought to our Encampment above the Long Sault) aſsembled in the night when Deiaquanda of Onondaga, and the Chief of St Regis made each a long and severe Speech on their Situation complaining that their Country was given up without an Action, that they were unsupported, and left to be Sacrificed, after having drawn on themselves the resentment of the Rebels by their Signal Services to Government, and some of the Chiefs were for setting off instantly for their Country with an appearance of making terms with their Invaders, which however I prevented, as they then, and on all occasions since declared they would be solely under my Guidanc

I have just received a letter from Major Butler with an account of the destruction of the Indian Towns Corn &c and the diſtreſsed State of the Indians in consequence thereof adding that "they "will expect something extraordinary from me, and that it will be neceſsar "for me to bring a large quantity of suitable goods to answer their expectation I am happy in reflecting that having foreseen the delay attending the Goods from England as well as the wants of the Indeans, I purchased as much as will be of great use at this time, till more can be procured for the purpose, and as I owe for the greatest part of them, as well as the Salaries of the Department & other Departments, due the 24th Instant the Accounts of which it has been impoſsible for me to make up yet, I take the Liberty to draw on your Excellency for Three thousand five hundred Pounds Sterl: in favor of Ellice and Company to be accounted for, which Sum I hope will enable me to prosecute His Majesty's Service till I can send my Accounts in form. At the present Critical Period, I believe it will require no small Influence and addreſs with the Indians to keep up their Spirits and preserve their attachment to Government, but I shall not despair of effecting these neceſsary purposes, so long as I am duly supported in the discharge of my duty, notwithstanding I enter upon it here at the most unfavorable period, and under many restrictions which I hope will no longer exist.

Captain Fraser proceeds with a large party of the Indians in Boats, and will join us at Aſserotus, and I have sent an Officer to Niagara, to accompany those who shall incline to come from thence. The Reduction of the Indian Towns &c must involve the Indians in very great Diſtreſs this Winter, at the same time that it appears evidently the interest of Government to supply them and thereby prevent their defection, the consumption of provisions will certainly be great but every measure on my part shall be taken to give them content, and to prevent their misfortunes from affecting the publick Service as much as it now threatens to do

I am Sir &c Signed G Johnson

No 4

Oswego 22nd October 1779

Sir

I had the Honor to write to your Excellency on the 15th Inst from this place, wherein I mentioned among other things my Wish to have some Indians and their Officers at Carleton Island, and yesterday I had the pleasure to find on receiving your Dispatch of the 6th of this Instant that my Ideas coincided with your Excellency's on the Subject. — I had intended to have sent one of my Deputy's to that place, but shall send a Captain and two or three Lieutenants of Indians, if Captain Fraser remain there to take care of them as one of my Deputy's will in that case be unneceſsary tho' perhaps your Excellency will be of opinion that one of my own Officers will be most agreable with the Six Nations — The greater part of the Mohawks and some of the rest will doubtleſs be prevailed on to go to Carleton Island, and this day I shall arrange that matter, as the Circumstances Sir John has aſsigned as well as the Order he has received, render it neceſsary for him to put his Troops into Winter Quarters —— The Indians are in general in good Spirits considering their misfortunes, and with care are likely to do good Service yet, but the only object which Sir John Johnson could have in view at this advanced Season, was against one of their own Castles, and that is a matter so much against the Inclinations of the Indians of Canada, and of many of the Six Nations (even of those who Condemned the Oneidas) that it was not very probable they would have publickly entered warmly into it, however I have good hopes that large party's may be made, during the Winter, composed solely of those who are determined Enemys to the Oneidas, by which the busineſs may be effected, and it has been all along my inclination to push matters in that way as the most promising

Major Butler who arrived here the 20th with the rest of the Indians that were to come by Water, having just before my arriva at Niagara, settled Accounts with the Officers &c of the Department, wishes much to be reimbursed agreable thereto I take the Liberty to drawn on your Excellency for £3600 N.Y. Curr.y which will answer that demand, and yo Excellency may be aſsured that so soon as it is poſsible the whole Accoun shall be made up and transmitted for your Inspection.

I have communicated your Excellency's Intentions to Sayenqueraghta who is highly gratified by that mark of your attention to him; and I shall pay due regard to what you mention respecting the Merchants Goods hoping at the same time, that the part of those from England may arrive shortly.

Your Excellency may rely on my care to avoi any Steps that can prove injurious to His Majesty's Service, and that I am very sensible how far Major Butler can be serviceable thereto, who will I believe aſsist me in the line of my Department for some time; – At the same time I take the Liberty to suggest to your Excellency that every days experience convinces me of the propriety of sollicitting that some clear determination may take place, respecting my Rank in the Field, that I may not be in a predicament in which no other Officer is on these occasions, which must prove prejudicial to my Influence with the Indians, & Injurious to me in some measure as I was aſsured and fully expected that the Indians of that Confederacy were my Corps, or at least that I was on a Provincial footing – I shall take particular care that no Station of mine shall Interrupt harmony in any line of Service, and I wish to owe this matter to your favorable Opinion which I promise you Sir, I shall endeavor to deserve

I am Sir &c (Signed) G Johnson

N° 5

Niagara 21st November 1779

Sir

Altho' little has occured since my last of the 12

Instant, I would by no means omit the present opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's Dispatch of the 16th Ultimo, and expreſsing my thanks for the Bill you honored — Whilst at Ontario on Major Butlers representation I drew a Second Bill to enable him to pay off the Department to the 24th of September, at Niagara, and those with me of which a particular Abstract shall be transmitted, but I am sorry to say that from the Number of Indians still remaining here, and the neceſsary demands for provision I have not been able to procure any of the things from Carleton Island, but Lieut Colo Bolton has now directed one of the Veſsels to bring as much as is consistent with the wants of the Garrison & people here, which from contrary winds affords little prospect of more than one Trip, and Colonel Bolton is as sensible as I am of the neceſsity of getting up Goods from the scarcity here, & ready to afford any aſsistance that His Majesty's Service requires consistent with the demands for provisions, which however will be much diminished

I am highly obliged by your Excellency's approbation of Lieutenant Wilkinson's appointment, and you may be aſsured I shall pay equal regard to Œconomy as the good of the Service in all matters, — The Circumstances of the Times and the great change produced by the Accidents that happened, Just before my arrival, may poſsibly create some neceſsary Expenses, in a few points exceeding what was usual when there were fewer Indians here, and their Claims were leſs, this was what I principally wished to observe in the paragraph mentioned by your Excellency, which with great concern I find has been misconceived, and Major Butler has aſsured me that he pointed out these additional difficulties shortly after the Rebel invasion.

I persuade myself your Excellency will believe that a person who was so far honored by the late Sir William Johnson as (notwithstanding the nearer Tyes of Blood and affection in which other able & worthy Personages stood) to be recommended to His Majesty to be the only person who from application to Indian affairs he thought qualified to succeed him in the compaſs of his knowledge, Must be zealous to deserve that Character, and I do aſsure your Excellency that I have not a little Confidence in Contemplating that it may be in my Power to merit some part of that recommendation, & thereby acquire a Claim to (what I shall be most flattered with) the Esteem of a General of Discernment and Integrity.

I propose to get out a good party about the end of next Month, which will save provisions and probably meet with some Succeſs, and I beg to aſsure your Excellency of the perfect Respect & Esteem with which

I am &c (Signed) G Johnson

Lieut Colonel

Oswego Octr. 22d. 1779

Dear Brother,

No man has been more hurried than myself or, you shou'd have heard oftner and fully from me, - I can now only say that, as the Rebels retreated before Sir John cou'd be expected to get up, the only thing that offer'd was a stroke at the Oneida Villages, in which we have been disappointed as well by the Elements, as by the reluctance with which the Canada Indns. and many others have manifested, Tho' I believe a party may If the rest are not present be hereafter procured ready to do any thing in that way, which they wou'd not incline to in a body Collectively. - I have not been able to collect or transmit my Accots. as yet, but nevertheless was necessitated to draw for more Money on Accot of disbursments for pay &c of Major Butlers, which I hope the General will pay soon enough to have Returns this Year. I have fully Experienced the inconveniences attending unsettled Rank & tho' I will not suffer it to hurt the Service I heartily wish the General knew how disagreeably & painfully I am circumstanced in that particular, and how dangerous it must prove to the Service if a Major, or even a Capt. shou'd be found by the Indns. as the person to whom I must apply & on whom I must

Col. Claus,

depend when I take the field, contrary to every principle of policy, or indeed Justice to Senior Officers in Establishment.—
The only remedy is, the putting me in Orders, or enabling me to Consider, (as they were always understood) the Ind.s as my Corps; or to Incorporate good Men with them, which I can get without Interfering with others.—

I have not time to Write Polly now, tell her I love her other Sisters dearly, & that I got her letter yesterday which gave me great pleasure.— remember me most kindly to Sister Agnes & all friends and be assur'd I am with great sincerity,

Dear Brother, ever yours

G Johnson

tell Mr. Langan I got his letter yesterday & shall write him satisfactorily the next opportunity.—

From Col. Johnson
Oswego 22d Octr 79 —
Recd 28th Do —

283 (a)

Sir — Shawney Town Octr. 23d. 1779

289

I hope my Misfortune will be my apology for troubling you with a few particulars relative to myself & as your Ears have been often open to the Complaints of unfortunate Captives like myself you will Attend to my particular Case as there is something in it out of the common path of Indian Captives in which light I do not consider my self tho I am detained by them the particulars of which I will endeavour to relate as brief as possible

On the 27th of last Month I set off from the Falls of Ohio on Board of a Batteau with an Intention of going to Fort Pitt the Crew consisting of Nine persons who were passengers Worked their passage and found their own Provisions & Seven of the Prisoners that were taken last Winter at Post St Vincents with Governor Hamilton a Negroe Wench & Myself in Company of Two other Boats in the Service of the State of Virginia under the Direction of Mr David Rogers who had sundry Clothing and other things on Board which they brought from the Mississippi and on the 5th Inst. about three Miles below the little Miami River we fell in with a party of Senecas Wiandotts Delawares & Shawneys at the Crossing place of the Ohio Mr. Rogers with a party of Men from the Boats attacked the Indians who were Superior in Number to the party he had with him he was obliged to retreat and two of the Boats fell into the Hands of the Indians but previous to the Indians taking possession of my Boat I surrendered her and myself with two others and the Negroe Wench to Sergt. Samuel Chapman and the others choosing to be a prisoner to British Troops rather than trust to a Savage Enemy this Surrender would have been of little service to me if it had not been for the humane Interposition of the White Men who were with the Indians who have heretofore saved my life tho it was often in Danger but since my Arrival here I understand the Indians mean to detain me some time longer tho I am and wish to be considered as a prisoner to British Troops and hope for your Interposition to have me delivered out at Detroit as soon as possible that my Sufferings in Captivity may be amongst a People of the same Language Religion and Manners and whom till within these few Years I looked upon in a different light from that of Enemys –

In the Compass of a Letter it is impossible for me to relate minutely every particular relative to this Affair Sergt Chapman I make no doubt will inform you of all the particulars to whom I request to refer you and am

Sir

Your Most Hume Servt

John Campbell

Since writing the above I have heard of a Speedyer Conveyance than by Sergt. Chapman & therefore took the Liberty of sending by the earliest –

Captn. Lernoult
Commanding
Fort Detroit

British Museum

Cosuco 2º ott.e 77

C Letter 1779
from Col. J. Campbell
to Major Lernoult
dated Shawanese Town
23d. Octr.

Recd. 21st. Novr.

Richard Beringer Lernoult Esqr.
Captn. in the 8th Regiment and
Commandant
Detroit

Copy

Charges against Capt. Aubrey of the 47th Regt. Injustice, Cruelty, and Oppression.—for Tyrannical and ungentlemanlike Behaviour to Officers of the 47th Regim.t under his Command, and for having made Lieutenants of a Provincial Corps take Rank of Lieutenants of the 47th Regt., contrary to an express Article of the Articles of War.

(Signed) Thomas Bunbury
Lieut. 47th Regim.t

Detroit 29th Octr. 1779.

43.

out with his Party consisting of 40 Ind.s & 4 Foresters accompa
by Lt. Turney & 20 Rangers. — At the same Time a Mr. Bra
kenridge arrived Express from Canada with Dispatches of
13th. Octr. in which the General wishes to have his former
Orders to Sr. John Johnson for going into Winter Quarters pu
immediately into Execution. — Abt. 5 P. M. he was sent a
with his Despatches for Niagara, & Ensign Prentice was al
dispatched with Letters from Sir John & Col.o Johnson to Ge
Haldimand, Col. Claus, Major Nairne &ca.

About 1 P. M. Capt. Tice returned with the Scouting
Party from the East Side of the River, having found th
the Tracks discover'd were those of a Party of Rangers
who had been out a few Days before. — In the Evening
Canoes with Messisaugoes arrived.

Return of Six Nation Ind.s now here.

Nations.	Men	Women	Child.	Total
Mohocks - - - -	40.	5.	–	45.
Canajoharies - - -	9.	1.	–	10.
Senecas - - - -	3.	–.	–	--3.
Onandagoes - - -	20.	9.	6.	35.
Cayougas - - -	14.	1.	–	15.
Oneydas - - -	1.	2.	.	3.
	87.	10.	6.	111.

Saturday 23d. — Sir John proposed to call the 7 Nat.s of Canada
with

with the Rest and acquaint them with his Intentions of putting
Troops into Winter Quarters, & to advise them to make an Excursion to the Mohawk River and return Home across the
Country. But Capt. Fraser tho.t it was best to say nothing a
it, but to see to draw them up the Country under that Pretence & then set them on the Oneydas, a Deception tha
might be attended with dangerous Consequences. — Abou
3 P. M. A Messenger came to inform us that our Scout h
taken 3 Oneyda Rebels Prisoners, & wished for a Party to co
duct them in which was granted. — At 4 Capt. Nellis
arrived with the Party & 3 Prisoners who were bro.t to Col.
Johnsons Tent to be examined. Two of them made many
cuses & pretended that some of their People had heard t
firing of Cannon & they were sent to see what was the
sion. One was a Fellow of a very bad Character & well know
the Youngest Santo after some Conversation m
ed with Threats acknowledged that they were Part of a
Party of 6 who had two Days before reconnoitred us, & tha
the other 3 separated from them near the 3 Rivers; — tha
there was 1000 Men at Ft. Stanwix but none at their Vil
200 at the German Flats, 100 Ind.s at Canawaroharie
a stockaded Fort, a Scouting Party of Onondagoes out n
far from us, & that they scouted as far as Canadasagae on

the

45. the one Side, & the Sandy Beach (on Ontario) on the oth
that the Commanding Officer at Ft. Stanwix had inform'd the
of a Battle between Sr. Heny. Clinton & Washington in whic
the latter was defeated with the Loss of his Baggage & his Ba
cut off. — That the French had sent the Rebels 10,000 Men,
6 large Men of War, promising 5000 Men more next Spr
He also acknowledged in the Presence of Kayangaragh
that the Oneydas had resolv'd to strike the Senecas other Inds. Friends to the King whereve
they met them.

The 3 Oneydas were then ordered to be put in Confin
ment on Board the Sloop Caldwell which did not appe
pleasing to the Canada Ind.s many of whom rec.d them w
great Cordiality, and one of them cut the Cords that tyed a
Oneyda however he was again secur'd & sent on Board u
der a strong Guard. — One of them was Onyeot's Son of
Oneyda, they were taken by Capt. Nellis, a Forester & S
hawks who had advanced before the Rest & went to 3 Riv
on their Return from which they fell in with them ab
5 Miles from their Party. It appeared as if a Rescue was in
tended which induced Sr. John to double the Guards

Sunday 24th. — At Noon the several Nations were called but th
did not meet till after Dinner, when Col.o Johnson opened
the

the Meeting with acquainting them that the Season being advanced and the Troops ordered into Winter Quarters the General had directed him to recommend it to the Indns. particularly the Mohocks to go to Carleton Island as well on Acct. of Provisions as that it was a convenient Place for detaching Par from, and that proper Officers should be sent to take Charg of them.

After which Sir John Johnson addressed them acquaint them that he came up the Country as he had before informed them to their Assistance with a Body of Troops, & in Expectation of finding the Enemy in their Country for wh Purpose he had first proposed to land at Asserotus, but find on his Arrival that the Enemy were long since retreated, a considerable Distance & that after many Days delay at th last Place of Rendezvous (waiting for the Party that was to come up by Land) to no Purpose, and having recd. Genl. Haldimands Orders for distributing the Troops into Winter Quarters Niagara & Carleton, he wished to have their Opinion upon it, know what Number would go down the Country that Arrangements might be made accordingly, adding that good Care w be taken of them & they would be in Readiness for the Operations of ensuing Year, when he believed the Genl. would assist them &c.

47.

Monday 25th.. The Six Nations & Canada Ind.s aſsembled & the latt formally condoled with the former for their Late Loſses which th had hitherto neglected to do. — They were then aſsembled by Col. Johnson in the Presence of Sr John Johnson, when they first a dreſs'd the Ind.s of Canada on the Belts they had received

From Mr Gerault
21st [illegible] 1779—

Sir

St. Francois Octr. 25th 1779

Be so good as to inform his Excellency, that agreeable to orders I recd. from Colonel Campbell dated the 2nd Inst. I assembled all the Indians belonging to this Village who were not already employ'd, and part of the Indians of Becancour, who since that time have waited in constant expectation and very impatient of further orders; in so much that I was obliged to send to Montreal, to know if there was any probability of their being employ'd, and if not to beg permission for them to go hunting, to enable them to pay the debts they have contracted; but the Col. not having had any later instructions concerning them, was obliged to require of them to wait a little longer, in hopes that he might be able to inform them of his Excellencies pleasure, to which I have got them to consent, but on conditions that I Victual them, and write to Quebec by the most speedy conveyance to inform him of their great impatience to know his determination. Tho ~~they~~ they are really wretchedly off in point of provision; I do not believe Victualing would be sufficient to detain them, was it not for the addition I am obliged frequently to make of a few Bottles of rum, in which they seem to place their whole delight. The unreasonableness and frequency of their demands, now that they have a pretext for them, is most insupportable; particularly as I want the assistance of many good Indians in whom I placed some confidence, who I have sent on the services his Excellency demanded.

I expect in about five or six days the return of the Indians I sent to discover what progress was made on Heavens Road, (of which I suppose his Excellency has been informed) and to know if the report concerning it was true, two of whom are men on whom I can pretty much depend

I have some reason to suspect that there is a Rebel Indian conceal'd near this place, and am taking measures to discover if it is true, which if I do I will immediately communicate.

I am Sr Your Most Obed
Humble Servt
Wills Crofts
Lt 34th Regt

BRITISH

Lieut. Col. Campbell }
(Copy) —

Quebec 28th Oct 1779.

Sir

I have Received your Letter of the 21st Octr covering Abstracts of Your Accounts to 24th June, and a Speech from the 7 Nations of Canada, requesting, that Missionaries may be appointed to their Villages — In answer to which, You will inform them that I have Received their Request with Pleasure, that, far from wishing to Interrupt the Exercise of their Religion, I am pleased they are so desirous to Pay that Attention which is Due to it, and that I shall lose no Time in procuring for them Proper Persons to Instruct them in the Duties of it. —

I am desirous to fit out two Scouts immediately, one to go towards Lake George, and the Other to make discoveries of Mr Hazen's Operations, and if Possible, to make a Stroke in that Quarter — I would have them both Strong, but at the same Time, do not wish to Send Any Indians on them, who are not perfectly inclined to go, and determined to fulfil the Purpose of their Going — You will Arrange these Scouts as soon as possible, appointing Such Officers to Conduct them, as You think most proper for the different Routes — Should Mr Crofts wish to conduct the St Francois Indians, I have no Objection to His going. The sooner they are Sent to St Johns, the Better; there they will Receive More Particular Instructions — as the Scout Sent out by Mr Crofts is expected to Return in a few Days, it will be Known Whether it will be best to Send one of the Scouts that Way, or to Join the Other. Going towards Fort Edwards — In all Events, they will both be dispatched from Isle aux Noix, and I Shall Write to Major Carleton to have some Good Woods men ready to Accompany each Scout.

The Scout Sent out some Time ago under the Direction of Monsieur Launiere, Returned two days ago —

ago — he says they behaved remarkably well, & they have been very Lucky, having taken a Lieut. Colonel Lowder and Capt. De L'Abadie (a French Officer) charged with Dispatches to Congress, which have been likewise brought in — The Indians have been fully recompenced, and have nothing further to ask or to Expect. —

I am Sir &ca —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

P: S:

I have Given direction to Col. Claus to provide two Mohawk Indians for the Scout that will go towards Fort Edward, they being acquainted with that Country —

(Copy) 1779

To Lieut. Colol. Campbell
of the 28th October.

Cherokees Speech
brought by Kittinguay
the 26th Octr 1779

1779
Speech of the
Cherokees 26th Octr
Recd 24th Novr

(Copy) 172

Sir Quebec 28th Octr 1779

I am favored with your Letter of the 25th Instant, and have had the Honor to lay it before His Excellency General Haldimand by whom I am commanded to signify to You his desire that You keep in readiness to march, the Indians You have collected to go upon a Scout, Orders being dispatched to Colonel Campbell for the arrangement of two Scouts — Unless the Intelligence You every day expect to receive from Mr Hazens Quarter, should alter the Generals Intentions one of the Scouts will be sent that way — As His Excellency is not desirous that these Scouts should be very large; He would not have You engage any Indians who are not perfectly inclined to go, Mr Hazen's Quarter, should alter the Generals

Intentions one of the Scouts will be sent that Way—

As His Excellency is not desirous that these Scouts

should be very large, He would not have You engage

any Indians who are not perfectly inclined to go,

and determined to execute the Purpose of the Scout—

They will be dispatched from Isle aux Noix, & You

will have directions from Colo Campbell to send them

to St Johns— If You should be desirous to go Yourself

it will be in your Option— I mention this that You

may prepare accordingly.—

Mr Lorimier returned two days ago—

his Indians behaved very well, and were lucky, having

brought in a Lieut Coll & a French Captain with

Dispatches they were charged with to Congress—

The

Lieut Scott

The General desires I would acquaint You that the Indians have been fully recompensed, & have nothing more to ask, or to expect — He likewise Desires that You will signify to them, again, His perfect Approbation of their Conduct.

I am

&c.

(Signed) R Mathews. Lt.

directed to run up to the Camp for Protection but throu
Means of Carachquenty to whom the Ind.s assembled & follow
so close & with such Fury that they came up with & cut him
so severely with their Axes that his Life was despair'd of. —

The Troops were order'd to Strike Tents & embark wh
was effected abt. 5 P.M. Col. Johnson went on Board the
Caldwell with his Men & a small Party of Chasseurs & 2
Ind.s also the 9 Oneyda Prisoners.

Thursday 28th — Arrived at Niagara abt. 4 P.M. when Col.
Johnson immediately sent the Oneydas to the Guar
in the Fort.

Friday 29th. Lt. Lottrige who had been on a Scout upon Lake Eri
return'd this Evening.

Saturday 30th — In Consequence of the Orders & Letters received from the Comma
der in Chief Col. Johnson prepar'd to get a considerable Body of Ind.s to
go to Carleton Island & down the Country to save Provisions at
Niagara, & sent Messages to them the next Day to treat with th
publickly upon it. — This Day clothed many Indians & gave th
some Liquor but as little as possible. —

Kayashota & 8 of his People arrived from Canawago, near
the Ohio and made Col. Johnson a Visit in which he Com
mented him on his Return, & assur'd him that he would
remember the Promises he had made him in 1774, & wou
ever act towards him as he had done towards Sr. Wm. Joh

Sunday Niagara Oct. 31. 1779

At a Meeting held at Col°. Johnson's House, present as follows viz.

Col°. Guy Johnson Superint.
Lieut. Col°. Bolton
John Dease Esqr. } Depy. Agents
Major Butler }
John Powel, Capt.

Nathl. Hillyer }
Robt. Lottinge } Lieut.
Brant Johnson }
Richd. Cartwright Secy.
Nichl. Stevens Interp.

and the Chiefs and others of the different Nations. — after the usual Ceremonys of Col°. Johnson opened the Meeting by to ~~reading~~ Explaining the of the Generals Letters to him and Col°. Bolton's to the Indians wherein he expresses his Desire that Part of the Indians and their Families might be sent to Carleton Island & Canada: ~~the Indians were given to understand by Col°. Johnson~~ & that the General in this only consulted their Conveniency. as ~~from this~~ [illegible] ~~that~~ it would be impossible to maintain them all at this Post as the Season being ~~was~~ so far advanced that the Vessels

52. could not bring a sufficient Quantity of Provision acroſs
Col.o Johnson offered pass. whole rem.g
the Lake; ~~that~~ therefore if they ~~staid~~ here they must be
greatly distreſsed, but that either at the Island or in
Necessarys
Canada they would have plenty of ~~every thing~~: that
they need not fear being well ~~taken~~ Care of at either
as they wo.d be under the
Place, ~~that but the [illegible] they would be [illegible] the [illegible]~~
down the Country
& Care of proper Officers as well at last Niagara & that the General
~~of the General himself who had declared he would do~~
Col. Johnson
wo.d do every Thing in his Power for them; ~~and~~ that ~~he~~ had
Carleton placed
already sent two of his Officers to ~~the other~~ on Purpose
to take Care of them and would ~~soon~~ send ~~two~~ more
if Occasion required
who he was sure would pay the greatest Attention
to them; and that those who remained should have
every thing in the Power either of Col.o Bolton or
himself: That he would wish to know as soon as
poſsible what Number would go that a convenient
Paſsage might be provided for them, that their im-
mediate Wants should be provided for here, but that
want
they would find every Article they ~~had~~ Provision
for in Abundance where they were going.

53. Tiahagwendy, an Onandagoe Chief, then rose and af
recapitulating, according (to their Custom, what Col.o Jo
son ^had^ said he addressed himself to the Indians, telling
them that the Proposal was a very proper one; ~~that it~~
shewed how much the General & Col.o Johnson had the
interest at Heart, and ~~that they ought to return them~~ ^it merited their better acknowledgt.^
~~their Thanks for it.~~ he ^therefore^ recommended it to the Chiefs
to ~~call~~ ^assemble their^ their People ~~together~~ and consider the Matter,
as he wished for the Col.o without delay
~~and readily let Col.o Johnson know the purport of~~
~~their Answer Tomorrow~~

To which the Chief Ansd. that they had attended ~~to~~ ^wt. care^ &
returned many thanks for the same, as they were persuaded
the Proposal was well intended, that they should
therefore take it into Serious Considern. & return an Answ.
the day following.

& Monday Novr. 1st. Held a private Conference with Thaiho
and gave him a Message to his People with a Promise
to get some Clothing sent to them. — Cloathed & arm'd
him & his Party, & gave him some additional Articles to
himself; cloathed 8, or 10 Parties besides. —

West Point Octr: 30 1779

Sir

His Excellency Governor Clinton has transmitted me an act of the legislature of the State of N. York, which on a supposition that I intended immediately to repair to Congress, requires me to lay before that honorable body. As my stay with the army may be longer than I expect at present I take the liberty to inclose the act to Your Excellency

I have the honor to be with Great Respect

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Ph: Schuyler

His Excellency
Samuel Huntington Esqr

Letter from P. Schuyler
Oct: 30. 1779
Read Nov. 4.
Referred to Mr Forbes
Mr Sharpe
Mr Morris.

An Act to appoint Commiſsioners to represen this State in any Treaty of Pacification that may be had with any of the Nations of Indi therein mentioned.—

Whereas the Government and People of this State from it first becoming an English Colony, as well as their — Predeceſsors the Dutch who were the original Planters thereof, have from Time to Time expended vast Sums for the Protection and Maintainance of the Six Nations of Indians residing within the Territories of the said State: And the said Nations by repeated Treaties and Grants have put themselves and the Country which they occupied under the Protection of the Government of this State, while it was administred by the Crown of Great Britain; and a considerable Part of the Right of Soil hath been actually purchased from them for valuable Considerations.

And whereas since the present War with Great Britain the said Nations have by the most solemn Treaties, repeatedly renewed, engaged to observe the strictest friendship towards the United States of America and all their Inhabitants

And whereas notwithstanding all these solemn Treaties Engagements and Obligations on their Part, and the repeated Acts of liberality, benevolence and protection on the part of this State from it's original Plantation; Four of the said Nations, namely, the Mohawks, Onandagas, Cayugas and Senecas have, without Provocation or Complaint ungratefully and perfidiously committed the most cruel

Hostilities against this State, destroyed the lives of a great number of it's Inhabitants, carried others into Captivity, demolished and burned down many Settlements and Villages and plundered the Property of the Inhabitants of the same, to our very great Distreſs and Impoverishment: Extending at the same Time their savage Barbarities to the Inhabitants and Territories of the neighbouring States; and have moreover concealed in their Castles and Villages our implacable Enemies, encouraged the Disaffection of many of our Inhabitants by Promises and Menaces; and to the utmost of their Force and Power voluntarily aided and aſsisted the King of Great Britain and his Adherents in their Attempt to reduce this Country to ignominious Bondage. —

Be it therefore enacted by the People of the State of New York represented in Senate and Aſsembly and it is hereby enacted by the Authority of the same That the Person administring the Government of this State for the Time being and Anthony Van Schaick, Lewis Pawling and Peter Schuyler

York represented in Senate and Assembly and it is hereby enacted by the Authority of the same That the Person administring the Government of this State for the Time being and Anthony Van Schaick, Levi Pawling and Peter Schuyler Esquires and Colonel Jacob Klock or the Major Part of them of whom the Person administring the Government of this State for the Time being shall always be one, shall be and are hereby authorized and impowered to be Commissioners for this State in case of a Treaty of Pacification hereafter to be set on foot between the said hostile Nations of Indians of the one Part and the United

States of America or this State on the other Part, to ask demand and by every Way and Means in their Power to obtain for and in behalf of this State, such Security and Engagement from the said hostile Nations of Indians not only for indemnifying and securing this State and the Subjects and Inhabitants thereof respectively against all future Hostilities that might otherwise be committed by the said Nations of Indians either jointly or severally or the individual Members of the same respectively, but also to ask demand — exact and receive such Compensation and Retribution for the abovementioned Hostilities and Injuries, — whether in such Treaty of Pacification with the said United States or with this State, as shall be proper and in every such Treaty of Pacification, if the United States shall be Parties thereto, to insist and require in behalf of this State to be admitted to represent the same particularly as a principal and contracting Party thereto by particular specification as an Independent State; and in case either of such Treaty — between the said United States conjointly, or this State seperately of the one Part and the said hostile Nations of Indians or any or either of them on the other Part to contract and agree on the Terms thereof; And that the said Commissioners or the Major Part of them shall from Time to Time report to the Legislature of this State all and singular the Actings and Doings of the Parties to any such Treaty or Treaties and each of them as the same shall occur And that the Person administring the Government of this State for the Time being shall without Delay furnish the Congress of the United States of America and their Commissioners for Indian Affairs respectively with Copies of this Law; And further that for all reasonable Expences which shall be incurred on the part of this State in the Progreſs and Completion of the Premiſses, adequate Provision shall be made by some future Act or Acts of the Legislature of this St

Paſsed 23d October 1779

A true Copy of the original Law

Jno. Morin Scott Secry of the State

An Act to appoint –
Commissioners to represent
this State in any Treaty
of Pacification that may
be had with any of the
Nations of Indians therein
mentioned. —

Proceedings with the Indians at Niagara. —

Sunday October 31st. 1779. — This Day a Meeting was held at Coll. Johnsons House,

Present. —

Coll. Guy Johnson Supt.
Lieut. Coll. Bolton
John Dace Esqr. } Depy. Agents
Major Butler }
John Powel Capt.

Nathl. Hillyer } Lieuts.
Robt. Lottrige }
Brant Johnson }
Richd. Cartwright Secy.
Nichl. Stevens, Interpreter

and the Chiefs and others of the different Nations. —

After the usual Ceremonies, Coll. Johnson opened the Meeting by explaining Part of the Generals Letters to himself & Coll. Bolton, to the Indians, wherein he expresses his Desire that Part of the Indians & their Families might be sent to Carleton Island & Canada, and that he in this only consulted their Conveniency, as from their present Numbers it would be impossible to maintain them all at this Post, the Season being so far advanced that the Vessels could not bring a sufficient Quantity of Provisions across the Lake. Coll. Johnson observed therefore that if the whole remained here they must be greatly distressed, and that either at the Island or in Canada they would have Plenty of Necessaries; that they need not fear being well taken Care of at either Place, as they would be under the Eye and Care of proper Officers down the Country as well as at Niagara and that the General would do every thing in his Power for them: that he (Col. Johnson) had already sent two of his Officers to Carleton Island on Purpose to take Care of them, and would send more if Occasion required, who he was sure would pay the greatest Attention to them: that such as remained at this Place should have every Thing done for them that was in the Power either of Col. Bolton or himself: that he would wish to know as soon as possible what Number of them would incline to go that a convenient Passage might be provided for them, assuring them that their immediate Wants should be supplied here, but that they would find every Article they might have Occasion for in Abundance where they were going.

Tehaqwendy an Onandaga Chief, then rose and after recapitulating, according to their Custom, what Col. Johnson had said, he addressed himself to the Indians telling them that the Proposal was a very proper one and shewed how much the General and Col. Johnson had their Interest at Heart, and merited their Acknowledgments; he therefore recommended it to the Chiefs to assemble all their People and consider the Matter as he wished an Answer might be given without Delay.

To which the Chiefs answered that they had attended to what had been said and returned many Thanks for the same as they were persuaded the Proposal was well intended, that they should therefore take it into serious Consideration and return an Answer the Day following. —

Wednesday Novr. 3rd. The Indians met at Col. Johnson's.

Present.

Col. Guy Johnson Supt.
John Dace Esqr. } Depy. Agents
Major Butler }
John Powel, Capt.
Nathl. Hillyer } Lieuts.
Richd. Wilkinson }
Richd. Cartwright, Secy.
Lewis Clement, Interpreter

Tuethoreckte a Cayouga, Speaker in Behalf of the Indians address'd Col. Johnson as follows,

Brother Gorah Uraghquadirhah.

We are now met to give you an Answer to what you said to us on Sunday last. As it is a Matter of Consequence it took us some time to consider it properly and consult with each other upon it according to the Custom of our Ancestors and therefore we could not give our Answer sooner.

We of the Six Nations have been much cast down by the great Loss we have sustained in the Destruction of several of our Villages and Corn Fields, but yet we do not despair, and we have sent Belts & Messages to the western & southern Nations in Behalf of our whole Confederacy, & in Consequence of our former

Engagement

Engagements hope to receive such Assistance as will be sufficient to reestablish us again in our former Situation. We cannot think of separating till we have received Answers to these Belts which you know will take up much Time.

No. 3

Brother!

We have considered this Matter very attentively and think it now more than ever necessary to be together united, for the Rebels may perhaps soon make another Attempt against us and if we are separated we will not then have it in our Power to assist each other which we are solemnly bound to do. We thank the General for his Attention & Wishes to accommodate us and have well considered what has been said on the Score of Provisions, but for the Reasons we have mentioned cannot think of separating, nor deem it proper that any considerable Number of our Body should go down the Country. If we are to suffer for Provisions we cannot help it, we are determined to persevere in the Cause we have engaged in whatever Difficulties we may have to encounter. We will endeavour in some Measure to help ourselves by Hunting, and hope to be able to live through the Winter, and then we mean once more to meet our Enemies and see whether we are to live or die.

Brother!

The Rebels have an Ear amongst us and

are soon informed of every Thing that is done among us; how would they rejoyce to find that we were scattering here and there. But now let them hear our Resolution which is to remain here during the Winter and in the Spring to go and revenge ourselves on them and if such is the Will of the Great Spirit, we will leave our Bones with those of the Rest of our Brethren rather than evacuate our Country or give our Enemies Room to say we fled from them.

This we speak as to us the Six Nations in general, for there are some of our People who may be spared and we shall recommend it to them to comply with what you propose.

A Number of our Nephews the Delawares are now out with Capt. Bryant who were to have joined you at Oswego, when they return we believe there are many of them will accept of the General's Invitation and go down the Country. —

Col. Johnson replied.

Brothers

The General's Request that you would send a Number of your People to Carleton Island & down the Country and my Sollicitations for you to comply with it proceeded intirely from the Regard we have for your Conveniency and Advantage. The Season is so far advanced that it is impossible for the Vessels to bring a sufficient Quantity of Provisions to supply you all here, but there is Plenty down the Country. Some of you seem already to complain that your Allowance of Provisions is small, but there will be an absolute Necessity to reduce it much smaller unless a Number of you will consent to remove. I would likewise observe to you that you may be in Want of many Things in the Course of the Winter, which I shall not have in my Power to give you, as a very inconsiderable Part of the Clothing &c. destined for you is yet come across the Lake, and much of it may not reach this Place this Season, which will subject you to many Inconveniencies that may be avoided by sending a considerable Part of your People to Carleton Island. These Reasons I before fully stated to you, and hoped they would have had Weight enough to have induced you to a Compliance with his Excellency's Request. However if you persist in your Resolution to remain here, I must recommend it strongly to you to secure your Wives & Families in the best Manner you can, and send your Warriors to hunt, to help to support you, & I shall give you Ammunition for that Purpose. I however must say that I do not think it at all likely that the Rebels will make any further Attempts against you this Year, and you may from Carleton Island annoy them greatly during Winter, and return t

Thu

British Museum

this Place early enough in the Spring to proceed against them in Force.

Extract from the Minutes.

Richd. Cartwright, as Secy.

No 7

Substance of Proceedings
with the Indians at
Niagara —
31st October 1779 —

[illegible]

Extract from the Minutes

[illegible]

68

Lord George Germain   Quebec 1st. Novem.r 1779

(No. 49.)   My Lord

Lieut. Colonel MacLean having made application to me for Pay as Brigad.r General, during the time of his absence from this Province upon Leave — I have the honor to acquaint Your Lordship that not thinking him intitled to such Pay, the Rank being Temporary and local; and being unwilling to furnish a Precedent for Claims of the the Like Nature, which appear to me irregular and improper, I have been under a Necessity of refusing his Request — But at the same time beg Leave to submit to Your Lordship that as Brig.r MacLean thinks he is intitled to said Pay, whether a gratuity equivalent to it, might not be granted to him in Consideration of His Services, and the Misfortune of having, in a great Measure, lost the use of a Leg thinks he is intitled to said Pay, whether a gratuity equivalent to it, might not be granted to him in Consideration of his Services, and the Misfortune of having, in a great Measure, lost the use of a Leg during the Siege of this Place, to avoid the Possibility of a Precedent being quoted in Similar Cases. ——

I have the Honor to be &c —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Lord George Germain

(No. 50.)

My Lord

Quebec 1st Novemr 1779.

By His Majesty's Sloop Viper, I have an Opportunity of Communicating to Your Lordship Accounts I have Received since the Departure of the Frigates Convert and Seaford, by Which I had the

Honor to transmit to Your Lordship a Dispatch and duplicate of It, dated the 25th Instant, together with duplicates of my dispatch by the Armed Ship Brilliant.

By a Letter from Sir John Johnson, dated at Oswego the 25th past, I am informed that having arrived too late in the Indian Country to effect any thing against the Rebels on their Retreat from the Destruction of the Indian Villages, to Tioga, 300 Miles from Niagara, which they Performed with the same Regularity, expedition and Good Order they Observed in advancing; and being unprovided either with a Sufficient Force, Provisions or Stores to attempt the Reduction of that Place he proceeded to Oswego with a Prospect of being Able to march against the Oneida Indians, who with great part of the Tuskeroras from the beginning, have been the Chief Support of the Rebel Interest in that Quarter, and have, with great Success, intercepted Intelligence & prevented all Intercourse between to Oswego with a Prospect of being able to march against the Oneida Indians, who with great part of the Tuskeroras from the beginning, have been the Chief Support of the Rebel Interest in that Quarter, and have, with great Success, intercepted Intelligence & prevented all Intercourse between the friends of Government and the upper Posts — In planning this Enterprize, he was heartily Seconded by many of the Five Nations Indians, but from their having been dispersed, the Canada Indians (who lean greatly to the Rebel Interest, — particularly since their Alliance with France) refusing positively to accompany him, the Difficulties of marching and Conveying the necessary Quantity of Provisions, at this advanced Season of the Year so far into the Enemy's Country, and having but very imperfect Intelligence of their Intentions, he found it impossible to Carry it into Execution, and is now on his Return to Carleton Island, having Sent as many of his Detachmen to Niagara, as was Supposed Could be victualled there during the Winter as the Operations in that Country must be intirely governed by the Force that Can be Sent there, it is impossible to Say what Can be undertaken in the Spring, I have fully represented to Your Lordship how necessary to the Preservation of the upper Country it will be, to Push up a Reinforcement as early as possible, and I hope that the Arrival of Supplies both of Provision and Men will enable me to Effect it. The Necessity of this Step becomes every Day More Obvious, for So indefatigable and determined are the Rebels in their Resolutions to reduce the Indians to their Terms and deprive us of their Alliance, that nothing but being able to Cope with them in the Field in the Indian Country, can Preserve to us the Attachment of that People which I have the Mortification to See every Year declining, notwithstanding the Many thousands and deprive us of their assistance, which nothing but being able to Cope with them in the Field in the Indian Country, can Preserve to us the Attachment of that People which I have the Mortification to See every Year declining, notwithstanding the Many thousands expended to retain it. — By the Concurring Reports of Prisoners, it appears that the Rebels had no Intention of undertaking any thing Material against this — Province this year, unless a French Fleet arrived, but that Preparations have been Making in every Quarter for a Vigorous & General Attack next Spring, in Order to Cooperate with a French Fleet which has been promised & is fully expected at that time. The Effect a very few Ships would have in Canada, I have already Said too much upon, to trouble Your Lordship with a Repetition From the Approaches of the Rebels Towards Detroit, and Possessing themselves of the Ohio & Wabash Rivers, together with the Co-operating Preparations against Niagara it would Appear they are bent upon the Reduction of the upper Posts to Secure the Indian Interests and for the benefit of the Fur Trade. ——

A Scout which in my last Letter, I acquainted your Lordship I had Sent out upon the Frontiers of New England, in hopes by alarming the People, to render some Service to Brig.r General MacLean, after having with the utmost difficulty penetrated within Ten Leagues of Penobscut, returned a few Days ago, bringing Prisoners a Lieut. Colonel Lowder and Captain D'Abadie /a French Officer/ whom they Seized on their Way from Machias to Boston being Charged with Dispatches from Colonel Allen /Commanding at Machias, and Superintendent of Indians in the Eastern Colonies/ to Congress, with Many Other Letters, of which, I have the Honor to Transmit to Your Lordship Some Extracts — A Ship just Sailing for Halifax gives me an Opportunity of Sending the two Prisoners & their Letters

Machias, and Superintendent of Indians in the Eastern Colonies to Congreſs, with Many Other Letters, of which, I have the Honor to Transmit to Your Lordſhip Some Extracts — A Ship just Sailing for Halifax gives me an Opportunity of Sending the two Prisoners & their Letters which Seem Most interresting to Lieut. Governor Hughes, in hope they May throw Some Lights upon Matters in that Province that May prove Serviceable to the Operations of Brigadr. General MacLean. The Rebels in that Quarter Seem Much Mortified by the Loſs of their Ships at Penobscot — it Must no doubt, disconcerted them greatly, but they are so expert in Building, that the Injury will be Soon repaired. —— Monsr. d'Abadie, from his being a Frenchman, poſseſsing good Talents, and being Much attached to the Cause he has embarked in, was a very improper Person to be kept here, I therefore send him to Halifax.

Estimating very high, advantages we gain of the Rebels may, in a Political View, have a Good Effect, but I should be Sorry the Little Excursions of Rangers, or Indians, so overated in the Public Papers, were Considered of Material Consequence to the Success of the War, While it is to be feared these small Strokes altho they alarm, and partially distress the People, only Serve to Exasperate them, and have been the Cause of the Rebels Making a Campaign in the Indian Country. ——

I have the Honor to be &ca —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Quebec 2d. Novemr. 1779.

Lord George Germain
(No. 51.)

My Lord

Mr. Michel Voyer, a Native of Quebec, and bred to the Sea, having been upwards of four Years absent from the

Lord George Germain

(No. 51.)

Quebec 2d. Novemr. 1779.

My Lord

Mr. Michel Voyer, a Native of Quebec, and bred to the Sea, having been upwards of four Years absent from the Province, lately returned to it by way of Lake Champlain; by the account he gives of himself, it appears, he has, most of that time, resided in the French West India Islands, and been employed in the small Craft trading to and from these Islands, that he sailed from Martinico, about the Latter End of July, in a Vessel bound to Boston, but Obliged by Stress of Weather to put into New London, from Whence he proceeded to Albany, and in Company with some Women, Coming to meet their Husbands, got as above into the Province. ——

It is probable, he is the Bearer of some Message,

or

Detroit the 1st. Novr. 1779

Sir

Agreeable to Your Excellency's orders, I have relieved Major Lernoult and have the pleasure to acquaint you, that he sets off with the accounts of Simon Girty, his Brother, and Mathew Elliot, having defeated a Colonel Rogers, on the Ohio_ a stroke which must greatly disconcert the Rebels, at Pittsburg. The papers relative to this Affair, and those found upon the Rebels, I inclose to Lt. Colo. Bolton to be forwarded.

The demand of the Indians are great If Captain Caldwell's Light Compy was here, I would comply with their request, that not being the case, I have it not in my power to assist them with Troops

To His Excelly.
The Commr. in Chief

Troops, but, shall send them a Supply
of Goods, and Ammunition in a Small
Veſsel, and write to Captain McKee
to see it properly divided.

Lieut. Governor Hamiltons meſsag
Kiſsingua is returned from Pensacola,
with some Cherokees, and Letters from the
Commiſsioners for executing the office of
Superintendent, which I also transmit.
By the Cherokees I shall return answers
to the Commiſsioners, and shall write to
Governor Chester, Inclosing him a Copy
of the Spanish Governors Letter.

I have the honour to be
with Great respect
Your Excellency's
Most Humb. & Obed.
Servt.
A. S. DePeyster

From A 1779
Major de Peyster
1st Novr. – Recd. 24th

(Copy)

Quebec 10th Novr 1779.

Sir

While I have a Pleasure in manifesting my Approbation of your Conduct as an Officer whom, tho' unknown to me, I have had the most favorable Reports of, I am happy it has been in my Power, at the same time, to reward the long Service of a deserving Officer, by appointing You Adjutant General. — The sudden Change of Climate from Detroit to this Place, at this Season of the Year, to a Constitution which, I am sorry to hear, is not the most robust, induces me to dispense with your Attendance on your Duty this Winter, to which the Consideration of your being able to render Assistance to [illegible] Henry [illegible] & not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] You [illegible] arrived

Sir,

&c.

(signed) Fred. Haldimand

Major Lernoult

Montreal the 1st Novem.r 1779

Sir

I have Received your Excellencys Commands Respecting the two Scouts you are desirous to Send out at present and I have accordingly Sent yesterday morning to the different Villages to Collect the Warriors, and recommended as much Dispatch as possible — I cannot Inform you of the Number that will Be assembled on this occasion Before the Return of the Messengers, If the Report which prevailed yesterday (of the Indians which were with Captn Fraser Being Returned) Prove True the Party will Be very respectable; I have the honor to Be with Due Respect

Sir
Your Excellencys Most Obed.t
and most humble Servant
John Campbell

To
His Excellency
General Haldimand
&c &c &c

your Excellency's answer to the Requ
of the Seven Villages in Canada I will
communicate to them as soon as possible as I'm certain it will give them
Infinite Contentment and promot
their Zeal for the Kings Interest

I Campbell

BRITISH MUSEUM

From 1779
Lieut. Colonel Campbell
of the 1st November
Recd. 3d

Montreal the 29th Novr 1779

Sir

In consequence of the Commander in Chiefs Commands communicated to me by yours of the 22d Inst, I have sett to work to settle the Accompts of the Indian department, And you will please to acquaint his Excellency that they will be Ready for Examination by the 25th day of December next —

I am
Sir
your most Obedient
& humble Servant
John Campbell

Captn Mathews
Secrety

(Copy)

To

Major Carleton

at Isle aux Noix 1st Nov

(Copy)

24

Quebec 1st November 1779

Sir

Being desirous to send out a Scout by Fort Edward towards towards Albany to take Prisoners and destroy whatever Corn &c. they may be able to effect, and otherwise ~~as~~ to make discoveries, and if possible to strike a stroke against Mr Hazens I have directed Lieut. Colonel Campbell to collect Indians sufficient to compose these two Scouts, with proper Officers to conduct them, and to assemble them at Isle aux Noix for the purpose of arming and dispatching them from thence. I have therefore to desire that you will keep in readiness, to accompany each of them, eight or ten men, such as you think most proper for these two Scouts, with proper Officers to conduct them, and to assemble them at Isle aux Noix for the purpose of arming and dispatching them from thence. I have therefore to desire that you will keep in readiness, to accompany each of them, eight or ten men, such as you think most proper for that Service — A Scout which was sent some time ago towards Mr Hazens Road, is every day expected, it may bring usefull intelligence for that intended to succeed it, or perhaps such as may make it unnecessary to send on that Route, in which case, the whole may be sent by Fort Edward, this I shall leave to you to determine upon, as you shall think best from circumstances and Intelligence you may receive.

By a letter from Sir John Johnson I find He intended to make a stroke against the Oneidas, but was obliged to abandon his purpose, the Indians of

Major Carleton

Detroit the 2d Novr. 1779 —

Sir

Your letter to Captain Lernoult was deliv'd to me by Mr. [illegible] — Capt: Lernoult relieved by me, Set out this morning for Niagara.

I heartily congratulate you on the success Messrs. Girtys and Elleot, on the Ohio — The stroke will no doubt be severely felt at Pitsburg

I am sorry at not having it in my power to comply with the demand of the Indians in sending troops to the Shawanee town, was Capt Caldwells Rangers here It should be done — I shall however Comply with their request in what relates to Clothing, amunition &c — for which purpose I will dispatch the Adventure [illegible]

[illegible] manders here it should be done —

I shall however Comply with their request in what relates to Clothing, Ammunition &c — for which purpose I will dispatch the Adventurer with a cargo to be divided amongst the Wyandots, The Shawanees, Delawares, and Mingoes —

Which I must request of you to see divided, at least the Proportion to the different nations, in order to prevent Jealousy.

I send strings of Wampum, which I most earnestly request of you to cause to be delivered to the Monsey Indians desiring them to bring in or to deliver up to you, a Woman Named Peggy West, she was taken about a twelve month ago

[illegible] McKee }
Maumee towns

within Twelve miles of Fort Pitt. the other side of
it, near the Widow Miers, Her husbands nam
was Isaac West - You will please to send the
other String, to the Delawares, for her Daughter,
a Girl of about Eleven Years of age, named
Nancy taken at the same time -. The
Circumstances will be remembered by the
Indians, as the Father was Killed, and the
Mother and two Daughters divided, one oft
Girls of Twelve Years old lived with a Delawe
whose name she thinks is Noughboughkallen
this letter was lately brought in and delivered
up to Capt: Lernoult - She is now with my wife

If Sir! It be possible to find the Mother and
the other Sister, I will not spare Expence, pleas

this Letter was latetly brought in and delivered
up to Capt: Lernoult — She is now with my wife

If Sir! It be possible to find their Mother and
the other Sister, I will not spare Expence, please
therefore to imploy some active people to g
search of them — assuring the Indians of a g
Price, and my gratefull acknowledgements —

The News latetly received from Niagara
is, that Sr John Johnson, Col: Guy Johnson,
and Major Buttler, with one Thousand
Indians, and a body of Troops with Artille
are gone to attack the Enemy at Theoga.

The Western Nations about Michilima
are well disposed, and will act with

against the Illinois.

The Hurons &c. are returned from Niagara, Sasterratzee has brought belts from the five Nations, for the Cherokees Chacktaws &c. desiring them never to make peace with the Kings Enemies untill his Majesty shall require it. Some Cherokees being present, are charged with those belts.

I shall dispatch the Sloop for Sandusky in four days at farthest.

I am Sir
with due regard
Your most Hum.e
& Obed.t Serv.t

A. S. De Peyster
Major

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

Mey De Peyster

55.

Wednesday 3 Novr. 3rd. 1779.

Present. —

Col. Guy Johnson Superintendt.

John Dace Esqr. } Depy. Agent
Major Butler }

John Powel. Capt. —

Nathl. Hillyer } Lieuts.
Richd. Wilkinson }

Lewis Clement, Interpreter

Richd. Cartwright, Secy.

Twet, ho, rech, te. Caijouga ~~Speaker began with the usual Forms, viz~~ addressed Col. Johnson as follows..

Brothers, Goragh Uraghquadirha

We are now met to make you an Answer to what you said to us on Sunday last; as it is a Matter of some Consequence it took us some Time to consider it properly, and consult with each other according to the Custom of our Ancestors, and therefore we could not give our Answer be-

We of the Six Nations have been much cast down by the great l- we have sustained ~~by~~ in the Destruction of several of our Villages and our Corn-Fields, but yet we do not despair; and we have sent Belts and Messages to the western and southern Nations, In behalf of the whole [illegible] ~~and~~ hope i to receive such Assistance as ~~will~~ be sufficient to reestablish us once more in our former Situation. We cannot with Propriety

56. think of leaving separate from ~~that Place~~ till we have received answers to our Belts which you know will take up much Time.

Brother!

We have considered this Matter very attentively, and find it now, more than ever, necessary to lie together and to be united; for the Rebels might perhaps soon make another Attempt against ~~them~~ us, and if ~~they~~ we ~~were~~ are separated ~~they~~ we then ~~would~~ will not have it in ~~their~~ our Power to assist each other which we ~~they~~ ~~were~~ are solemnly bound to do. We thank the General for his Attention to us, and his Wishes to accommodate us, and have well considered what has been said to us on the Score of Provisions, but from the Reasons we have mentioned cannot ~~think of separating, or leaving this Place~~ not deem it proper, that any considerable Number of our Body should go down the Country. If we are to suffer for Provisions we cannot help it; we are determined to persevere in the Cause we have engaged in whatever Difficulties we may ~~suffer~~ have to encounter. We will endeavour in some Measure to help ourselves by Hunting, and hope to be able to live thro' the Winter, when we mean once more to engage our Enemies and see whether we shall live or die.

Brother!

The Rebels have an Ear amongst us, and are soon informed of every thing that is done amongst us; how

57. would they rejoice to find that we were scattering here and there, but now let them hear our Resolution whi[ch] is to remain here during the Winter, and in the Spri[ng] to go and revenge ourselves on them, and if it is the Wil[l] of the Great Spirit leave our Bones with those of the Rest of our Bretheren, rather than evacuate our Coun[try] or give our Enemies Room to say we fled from them.

Thus we speak as to us the Six Nations in Behalf of those are some of our people who may be spared, and we shall recommend to them to accept of what you propose

~~Col.o Johnson replied~~

~~Brother!~~

~~My only Reason for wishing you to send some of your People to Carleton Island ~~Canada~~ was entirely for your own Conveniency.~~

A Number of your Nephews the Delawares are now out with Capt. Brant who were to have joined you at Oswe[go] when they return we believe there are many of them will also accept of the Generals Invitation and go ~~[illegible]~~

Col.o Johnson replied,

Brother,

The Generals Request that you would

56. think of leaving ~~this~~ separating Place till we have received an answer to our Belts Which I know will take up much Time.

Brother.

We have considered this Matter very attentively, and find it now more than ever necessary to be together and to be united, for the Rebels might perhaps soon make another Attempt against ~~us~~ and ~~father~~ if we are separated ~~they~~ then ~~would~~ will not have it in ~~their~~ our Power to assist each other which ~~they~~ ~~were~~ are solemnly bound to do. We thank the General for his Attention to us, and his Wishes to accommodate us and have well considered what has been said to us on the Score of Provisions but from the Reasons we have mentioned cannot think of separating or ~~leaving this Place~~ nor do we think it proper that any considerable Number of our People should go down the Country. If we are to suffer for Provisions we cannot help it we are determined to persevere in the cause we have engaged in whatever Difficulties we may ~~suffer~~ have to encounter. We will endeavour in some Measure to help ourselves by Hunting and hope to be able to live thro the Winter, when we mean once more to engage our Enemies and see whether we shall live or die.

Brother!

The Rebels have an Ear amongst us, and are soon informed of every thing that is done amongst us: how

57. would they rejoice [illegible]

and there; but now let them hear our Resol

to remain here during the Winter and in the Sp

to go and revenge ourselves on them, and if it is the W

of the Great Spirit leave our Bones with those of th

Rest of our Brethren rather than evacuate our Coun

or give our Enemies Room to say we fled from th

things we speak with the Sun [illegible]

~~Col. Johnson~~ [illegible] are some of our [illegible]

~~Brother!~~

~~My only Reason for wishing you to send some of your People to Carleton Island, which I knew was~~ for your own Conveniency.

A Number of our Nephews the Delawares are no out with Capt. Brant who were to have joined you at Osw when they return we believe there are many of will accept of the Generals Invitation and go

Col. Johnson replied.

Brother, The Generals Request that you

Send a Number of your People to ~~Canada or~~ Carleton Island & down the River,
and my Sollicitations to comply with it proceed entirely
from the Regard we have for your Conveniency and Ad-
vantage; the Season is so far advanced that it is impos-
sible for the Vessels to bring a sufficient Quantity of Provi-
sions to supply ~~them~~ you all, and ~~that~~ as there is Plenty ~~at the~~
down that Country we wish a Number of you to go there that
~~Island and in Canada~~ you ~~may~~ shall not want. ~~Some~~ of
you seem already to complain that your Allowance
of Provisions is small, but it must be much reduced unless a
number of you will consent to remove. I would likewise
observe to you that you may want many things in the
Course of the Winter which I may not have in my Power
to give you, as a very inconsiderable Part of the ~~Presents~~ Cloathing &c
destined for you is come across the Lake ~~& many~~ Most of them
may not reach this Place this Season which will sub-
ject you to many Inconveniences ~~which you would avoid~~ that may be avoided
by ~~going~~ your sending a Considerable part to Carleton Island. - These Reasons I before ful-
ly stated to you and hoped they would have had weight
enough ~~with you~~ to have induced you to comply with
this.

His Excellency's Request, however if you persist in your Re-solution of remaining here, I must recommend it strongly to you to secure your Wives & Families in the best Manner you can, and send your Warriors to hunt to help to support you. I shall give you Ammunition ~~enough~~ for that Purpose. I however must ~~say~~ that I do not think it at all likely the Rebels will make any further At-tempts against you this Year, and you can from thence annoy ~~them~~ greatly during Winter, as an return to this Place early enough in the Spring to ~~take~~ proceed against them; ~~[illegible]~~ ~~your Revenge of them~~,

Thursday Nov.r 4th.

To Day 56 Indians embarked on Board the Mohawk for Carleton Island ~~under the Care of [illegible]~~ Col.o [illegible] ~~Hill~~. The ~~[illegible]~~ to Capt. Rice ~~of my Department~~ who ~~[illegible]~~ he sent to the Island ~~for the~~ ~~Presents~~ to take ~~proper Care~~ Charge of such Indians as might ~~be sent~~ go from hence to that Place, and desired him not to let them want any Necessary.

Tehaqwendie, an Onandague Chief, who did not attend the Council Yesterday on Account of the Diff

Montreal 24th Novemr 1779.

Sir

77.

Agreable to His Excellency General Haldimands Order I have pitched upon two trusty sober Mohawk Indians to be ready to proceed with Colonel Campbells Scout and have mentiond them to him. Those that were left of the few I kept by His Excellencys Order from following Sr Jno Johnsons party being anxious to go on Service for Intelligence or a prisoner towards the Mohawk River, I agreable to a standing Order of the Generals last Summer, sent with a White Man that is well acquainted with them & speaks Indian, and they sat out from La chine last Monday.

They

[illegible] R: Mathews Esqr &c &c

They intend creeping along the Western Shore of Lake Champlain and take to the woods some where this side Crownpoint then strike across the Country towards Schenectady or Johnsonhall, and they may be at their destin'd place by the time Col.o Campbells Scout sets out, and return with them or ab.t the same time. — This day the Mohawk Chiefs John & Isaac with their parties that accompanied S.r Jn.o Johnson arrived here —

I have in my last Letter to His Excell.y inclosed an Abstract of my Acco.ts since Autumn 1777. with what temporary Warrants were granted me, wishing His Excellency would grant me a Warrant for the Ballance which I chiefly owed to Merchants I had goods from; And was obliedged to take up Cash from Mess.rs Phyn & Ellice & others to pay them before the sailing of the Fleet. I should therefore be greatly obliedged to you to remind His

Excellency to order me a Warrant for said Ballance if convenient, that I may refund my Creditors

I am with much Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedient and
most humble servant

D. McLane

from A 1779
Col. Claus 4th Novr
Recd 6th

BRITISH MUSEUM

Sir La Chine 4th November 1779

I take the earliest Opportunity to acquaint your Excellency of my return to this Country, and that the whole Detachment under my Command Sailed from Oswego the 26th of last Month, the Chasseurs and Rangers for Niagara; and the Detachments of the 34th and the Kings Royal Regiment of New York, for Carleton Island, where we arrived on the 28th — Those for Niagara must have arrived soon after, the Wind and Weather being very favorable — I have the Pleasure to inform Your Excellency that in the Morning of the 23d while at Oswego, our Camp

Royal Regiment of New York, for Carleton Island,
where we arrived on the 28th — Those for Niagara
must have arrived soon after, the Wind and
Weather being very favorable — I have the
Pleasure to inform your Excellency that in
the Morning of the 23. while at Oswego, our Camp
was alarmed a little before day by three Shots
from our out Centries, at an Indian who was
endeavoring to surprise one of them, he however
made his escape at that time, but I immediately
sent out a strong Scout of Rangers and Indians
who the same day fell in with, and took three
Oneidas who were sent from their Village to
watch our Motions, having been informed of our
intentions by a Cayuga Indian who went off

from

Niagara immediately after our arrival at that place – they would give us very little Intelligence, they said there had lately been an Action between Sir Henry Clinton and General Washington in which the latter was repulsed with the loss of all his Baggage and Artillery, some where between New York and Philadelphia – Lieutenant Crawford also returned the day we sailed from Oswego from a Scout he was sent on with twenty Canada Indians towards Fort Stanwix, they also fell in with four Oneidas, and one White Man who were sent from the Fort to Reconnoitre our Camp, the Indians suffered the Oneidas to return after being with them one Night, but brought in the White man, who proves to be the person that was at the head of the party that took the Prove

Indians towards Fort Stanwix, they also fell in with four Oneidas, and one White Man, who were sent from the Fort to Reconnoitre our Camp; the Indians suffered the Oneidas to return after being with them one Night, but brought in the White man, who proves to be the person that was at the head of the party that took the three men prisoners from Carleton Island this Summer. he denies having heard any thing of an Action having happened, but it was every day expected as the two Armies were very near each other in the Genesey; he says the Troops who destroyed the Indian Villages are all gone to their Main Army, and that he knows of no Post at Oswego and that the Garrison at Fort Stanwix Consists of but two hundred and fifty Men, and they

very

Sickly— before my departure from Oswego I made your Excellency's desire known to the Indians relative to their sending down their Women and Children to Canada, they seemed to be well pleased, and promised to do so, and I have reason to think that all except the Senecas will come down to Carleton Island Oswegatchie or Canada— having received your Excellency's permission to return to Canada after leaving the Command to Major Harris, I set out from Carleton Island the 30th and arrived here the 5th Instant at Night, notwithstanding which I am sorry to find I am too late for the fleet—

The Cloathing for my Regiment being arrived, and the [illegible] the Command to Major Harris, I set out from Carleton Island the 30th and arrived here the 5th Instant at Night, notwithstanding which I am sorry to find I am too late for the fleet—

The Cloathing for my Regiment being arrived, and the Agent pressing for the payment I must beg leave to remind your Excellency of the remainder of the Off Reckonings due to me for which I hope you will grant me a Warrant, that I may be enabled to transmit the Money to the Agent by the first Opportunity—

The three Oneida Prisoners were sent to Niagara by desire of the Six Nations 'till your Excellency's pleasure should be known relative to them, and the White Man was left at Carleton Island to

answer

from the Wounds he received from the Indians after coming into our Camp — Which we tried to prevent, but to little purpose, as he received several Cuts and Stabs with Tomahawks and Hangers —

I have the honor to be
with great Respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
John Johnston

From
Sir Joh
4th Nov

most obedient and

Most Humble Servant

John Johnson

From △ 1779
Sir John Johnson
4th Novr. – Recd. 6th

His Excellency
General Haldimand

59.

His Excellency's Request, however if you persist in your Re-
solution of remaining here, I must recommend it strongly
to you to secure your Wives & Families in the best Man-
ner you can, and send your Warriors to hunt to help to
support you. I shall give you Ammunition enough for the
Purpose. I however must say that I do not think
it at all likely the Rebels will make any further At-
from thence annoy them greatly by [illegible] Others, or as
tempts against you this Year, and you can return to
this Place early enough in the Spring to ~~take~~
proceed against them; ~~or~~ [illegible]
~~your Revenge of them~~,

Thursday Nov.r 4th.

To Day 56 Indians embarked on Board the Mohawk for
Carleton Island ~~under the Care of [illegible]~~ Col. [illegible] Fick. I
~~[illegible]~~ to Capt. Rice ~~[illegible]~~ who ~~[illegible]~~ was sent to
the Island ~~[illegible]~~ to take ~~proper~~ Charge of such
Indians as might go ~~[illegible]~~ from hence to that Place, and
desired him not to let them want any Necessary.

Teiharquendie, an Onondaga Chief, who did not
attend the Council Yesterday on Account of the Ill-

Difficulty of crossing the River as the Weather was bad, waited upon Col.º Johnson this Morning, and told him that he found the Warriors of his Nation× much averse to going down from the same Reasons that ~~as were~~ given ~~stated~~ at the Meeting ~~Council~~ Yesterday, but that he had prevailed upon thirty of them who would go, and hoped when the rest of his Nation who were out with Capt. Brant arrived, he should be able to prevail upon more.

Col.º Johnson again repeated to him the urgent Reasons there was for a Part of the Indians going from this; told him he did not mean to force them, but they saw how they were likely to be situated for Provisions and other Things if they staid, and might do as they thought proper. He thanked Tehaquendy for what he had done, & added that as he was a Man of Sense & Understanding he would be glad to have a private Meeting with him and a select Number of the Rest of the Chiefs Tomorrow.

Sir

I [illegible] this day [illegible] letters from [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the Mohawk [illegible]

[illegible]

Informing that an Indian [illegible] from that Settlement had intercepted a large quantity of Clothing going to Fort Pitt and escorted by fifty Men. [illegible] the [illegible] belonged to [illegible] Regiment, that Officer with [illegible] of his Party [illegible] in attempting to [illegible] the [illegible] Compelled by the Rebels [illegible] Prisoners. The Clothing must be [illegible] by the Enemy, as the Clothing was [illegible] for their Troops at the [illegible] [illegible] Majesty [illegible] Excellency. [illegible]

[illegible]

contrary to his orders — I am afraid this irregularity of Whiting [illegible] in that Village by [illegible] had a bad effect, which might possibly have been felt [illegible] the Villages [illegible] [illegible] and Dealing with the [illegible] Indians and taken the necessary precautions to prevent any [illegible] in that Department, [illegible] to [illegible] any [illegible] Measures which might affect the Interest —

Col. Johnson has not offered to the [illegible] [illegible] the Management [illegible] [illegible] Your Excellency [illegible] that they [illegible] [illegible] belonging to that Department [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Respect [illegible] Your Excellency's
most Obedient
most humble Servant

[illegible]
[illegible] 1779

Major Brown 1779
15 Mar 79 – Recd 7th

which they would freely share with their Brothers & hoped they would be able to maintain themselves till the Spring.

He said he had been out on a Scout towards Taningo lately and went as far as within 20 Miles of that Place, where he heard the Firing of Cannon which he supposed was from some Fort the Rebels were erecting at Taningo. ~~upon hearing~~ which he immediately returned to acquaint the Rest of the Chiefs therewith, who directly sent off another Party to get some more certain Information.

Col.o Johnson told him it was his Intention to send Cloathing and other Necessaries to the Indians at the Ohio as soon as he could get it brought over the Lake, and had signified the same to them by a Message which Thiegnota was to deliver ~~them~~ he told ~~acquainted them~~ also he highly ~~he approbation~~ approved of what they intended to do for their Brothers from the Susquehanna, and concluded with thanking them for their Vigilance in sending out Parties, which he recommended to them to do very frequently.

Sunday 7th —

This Morning an Indian came Express from Canawagoras with a Letter from Capt. Johnston importing that the Indians wished to have the Tuskarora, taken along with 2 Oneydas near Oswego, sent back with a sharp Message from their Chiefs to the Indians in the Rebel Interest.

Soon after [illegible] Papers were sent to Col.o Johnson which were Duplicates of some Letters to Gov.r Hamilton containing the State of Indian Affairs in Pensacola and other Places to the Southward, & importing that ~~where~~ the Cherokees and other Nations were constantly employed against the Frontier Settlements of the southern Colonies, and that 600 were kept [illegible] constantly on actual Service.

Among ~~the rest~~ was a Speech from some of the Cherokees to the different Tribes of Indians inhabiting the Wabash or Parts adjacent to it, and in general to all Indians in the Kings Interest who have raised the Hatchet against the Virginians. A Copy of ~~said Speech~~ which here follows. — 12th July 1779. —

The Speaker in Behalf of the Indians deliver'd himself as follows. —

This Day has been allotted by the great Man abo for us to meet at our elder Brother's Camp, where we now see and have shook Hands with a Tawaw Chieftain who was sent as Messenger by white & red Warriors to see what is become of us. — We know that his Journey to us has been long, tiresome & dangerous, & we see that he has not rested much on the Path as the Dirt is still fresh to be seen on his Boots.— —

We cannot forget the Talks you brought us some Years ago into this Nation, which was to take up the Hatchet against the Virginians.— We heard and listened to it with Attention, and before the Time that was appointed to lift it, we took it up & struck the Virginians. Our Nation was alone & surrounded by them; they were numerous and their Hatchets sharp, and after we had lost some of our best Warriors, we were forced to leave our Towns & Corn to be burnt by them, and now live in the Grass as you see. But we are not yet conquered and to convince you that we have not thrown away your Talk here are 4 Strings of Wampum

we received from you when you came before as a M
senger to our Nation. — —

It makes our Hearts glad that so many of
you hold fast by your Father & join his white Warri
ors to strike the Virginians; and we now give you bea
from us to be delivered to all Red-Men of our Way
of Thinking that they must never let the Hatchet
be idle untill the great King our Father takes it
out of their Hand; and we are determined to do the
same. — Wee look upon you as one of our own Fles
and Blood, and we mean to take Care of you, — we hav
appointed a Time for your Departure, and will sen
five of our own People to conduct you home, & we hop
that you will arrive there safe. — After the Space
of 2 Moons we shall be daily looking out for the
Return of our People as we shall be anxious to hear from
the northern Nations, and to hear of their good succes
against the Virginians. We shall leave our oldest Bro-
ther here to send Talks to the white Warrior that the
great King has sent amongst your People as he knows

best how to Speak to them, and we desire that you will hold them firm as we do him. — That you may not forget what we now say we give you three Strings of White Beads.

Signed for & by Request of the Cherokee Indians of this Settlement of Cossawetahtee, between the Cherokee & Creek Nations

Alex.r Cameron Dep.y Sup.t

One of the Letters contained an Acc.t of Col.o Stewart's Decease, at the 21st March 1779, and that Governor Chester had appointed Andrew Rainsford, John Mitchele, Robert Tait, Alex.r Macullagh & David Holmes Commissioners to take in Hand the Management of Indian Affairs, till his Majesty's Pleasure be known.

Tuesday 9th. This Day Cap.t Johnston & Party arrived from Canawagaras having heard that we had left Oswego.

Thursday 11th — Cap.t Brant and Party arrived. they had remained at Canadasagae expecting a Message from us from Oswego tho' on our leaving Niagara that was named as the Place of

general

Lieut. Col. Campbell }
Copy) }

Quebec Novr. 8th. 1779

Sir

Being informed by Sir John Johnson that a Scout composed of Canada Indians, which he sent out under the Direction of Lieut. Crawford, towards Fort Stanwix, fell in with, and took Prisoners, one White Man and four Oneida Indians, and that they afterwards released the Oneidas, leaving it in their Power to Return to their Nation with Whatever information they had Collected — I think it would be Right to Call together such Chiefs as you think proper, upon the Occasion, and to Signify to them My highest Displeasure at that part of their Conduct, so very unlike the Example shewn them by their Brothers the five Nations, whom they went to Assist, and Whose Blood, has been often Spilt by that Treacherous Nation — I do not Wish to be Obliged to destroy those deluded People, in hope that their Eyes will yet be opened to their Shamefull Desertion of the Confederacy to Which they once belonged — but I shall certainly Confine all of them that shall be taken, and Keep them as Hostages, and to Revenge the Blood of any of the five Nation Indians that shall hereafter be Spilt by their means, for Which Purpose, I have now three of them Prisoners at Niagara, and I would inform the Seven Nations of Canada that While they pursue that Conduct, neither their Father, nor the five Nations will believe that they are Sincere in their Professions of Assisting their Distressed Brothers — They cannot be Ignorant that it was owing intirely to the

Oneidas

Oniedas that the Onandaga Village was Destroyed & its Inhabitants Murdered and taken Prisoners, that they Seized all Messengers, Indians or White People Would attempt to bring the Five Nations Intelligence of their Enemies design against them, and Yet they Received Presents and are fitted out for War on a pretence of Supporting their Brethren, While they every Day Meet their bitterest Enemies, and Allow them to go unpunished. You will add upon this Subject all that You Can Suggest to give it Weight — They alledged to the Five Nations that they were prevented from going to their Assistance — the Only Opportunity that offered to Shew their Inclination to Distress their Enemies, They Met, & Shook hands with them, telling them Return home to Consult upon future Plans to Destroy their Brethren —— I put these heads down as they Occur to me, you will add, or Diminish as you think they may best Suit the Temper of the Indians.

I am &c.

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

(Copy) 1779

To

Lieut. Col. Campbell of the

— 8th. November —

244

Niagara Novber 10: 1779

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency; that Major Lernoult arrived here this day, and informs me that Girty with a Party of Shawnese and other Nations, had fallen in with Colonels Rogers & Campbell with a Detachment of fifty five Rebels in three Batteaux loaded with Clothing & Merchandise for Fort Pitt. forty four of the Enemy were killed on the Spot just after they had landed, and the rest except six were taken Prisoners; Rogers was killed by Girty, and Campbell is now Prisoner at Detroit. Colonel Clarke with about forty Vagabonds remain at Post Vincent, and by all accounts are in great distress for want of Clothing and Merchandise. The Success of this Expedition has raised the Spirits of the Indians in that Neighbourhood, but the inclosed Letters and papers will inform your Excellency of many Particulars, and also of some Intelligence from Pensacola; Major Lernoult assures me that the Rebels have abandoned the Fort at Tuscarowas —

On Captain Caldwell's arrival here from Detroit, I sent him with a party of Rangers and Indians to follow the Rebel Army, and if possible to take a Prisoner; he has returned a few days ago, and informs me that General Sullivan had received an Express from General Washington on his leaving Canadasago, upon which he sent Orders to set fire to the Stores

Fort at Tioga; which is entirely destroyed, and had marched with the great Part of his Army towards Philadelphia, and with such Expedition that he has left several hundred horses, Pack saddles and a considerable number of Cattle in the Woods — Parties of Indians are gone in quest of them — from Mr Sullivan's hurry and Confusion in taking leave of the Indian Country, I have some reason to imagine General Clinton has found Employment for Mr Washington; which has induced him to the necess of recalling to his Assistance so considerable a Detachment — Captain Caldwell went about sixteen miles beyond Tioga, but could not prevail on the Indians to go to Wyoming — Your Excellency has enclosed a Copy of a Letter found at Tioga from the number of Grav he observed in several Places there is scarce a doubt but many of the wounded men must have died ——

I am concerned to inform you Sir that Captain Ly has put Ensign Hamilton under an Arrest, and notwithstanding Captain Lernoult made several Attempts to have those disagreeabl affairs amicably settled without troubling your Excellency, that it has been all to no purpose ——

Colonel Johnson informs me the Six Nations are resolved not to leave their Country, as the Enemy might imagine they had abando it thro' fear, however they have promised (he says) to send several Famil to the Villages which have not been destroyed, and Parties to bring in the Corn that the Rebels in their precipitate Retreat have left on their road —

I am
Sir
with the greatest Respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P. S.

I enclose you Sir a Copy of a Letter received from Lieut. Burbury of the 47th Regt. and also Mr. Flemings Return of Provisions in Store at Detroit — in Consequence of which I shall detain seven or eight hundred Barrels now at Forts Schlosser & Erie —

His Excellency General Haldimand

from A 1779

Lt. Col. Bolton

10th Novr – Recd 24th.

Copy

Return of Stores Provisions and Cattle belonging to His Majesty at Detroit. 20th of October 1779. Allowance made for damage & defects

Flour	461890 pounds
Pork	100,700 pounds
Butter	1250 pounds
Pease	3800 Gallons
Corn	342 Bushels
Oatmeal	17000 lbs
Salt	8200 lbs
Rum	6768 Galls
21 Oxen 13 Cows	Estimate 12300 lbs beef

This remain with the 117 barrels pork and 78 firkins butter. since received from Fort Erie. I am of Opinion, will secure Detroit till Spring; and enable Colonel Bolton, to detain the remainder of the Provisions destined for this post, at Niagara, if His Majesty's Service requires it. The prudent measures that were adopted, by Major Lernoult, to procure quantities of Fresh Provisions during the Summer, and now pursued by Major De Peyster, turn opportunely to the Good of the Service as it affords a better Supply for the many Exiles & others now — employed at Niagara &c

Jno Fleming
Deputy Commissary

2

3 a Letter from Mr. Fleming

Return of Stores, Provisions
& Cattle belonging to His Majesty
at Detroit the 20th Octr. –

Inclosed in Lt. Col. Bolton letter
of the 10 Novr. 79 (No. 42)

Letter 1779

from Mr. Elliott to

Major Lernoult 11th Octr.

Recd. 24th Novr.

Inclosed in Lt. Col. Boltons letter of the

10th November 1779

Ohoney Towns October the 11th 1779

Hond Sir this is to inform you that on the 3d of
this Month we Arived at the River Ohio - and on
the 4th we lay in Camp a bout 3 Mile a bove licking
Creek, about 50 of Our men went out a hunting —
about one OClock one of our men fired of his gun
Which there was 3 Boats Coming up the River
and they heard the Report of the gun, two of them
was loded with goods for the use of the Americkan
Troops Bound for Fort Pitt under the Command
of Collonel Rogers, and the other Boat was Comman-
ded by Collonel Camble and on hearing of the gun —
Collonel Rogers Orderd the Boats to Run a Shore
on Which he landed about 40 of his men and Came
and Surounded us and gave us the first shote on Which
they took us at a nonplush for we ad but a little better
then 40 Men in our Camp but we all flue to our Arms
like good Soldiers, and fired away till we Drived them
Out of the Bush But as soon as the men see us Drive
them out of the Bush the Bushd of the Boats for they
Could not stay for them, for we followed them Close
Simon girty says that he wounded Rogers in the
Bush and that he flung away his gun —
we taken one of the Boats that was load with goods —
and the Other got of with about Sixe or 8 men in her
Serjeant Chapman and 6 More men that was Prisoners
of War with him was in the Other Boat Commanded
by Collonel Camble but as soon as the got in the
Middle of the River Serjt Chapman Orderd the Prisoners
of War to leave of Rowing and lay down in the Boat
Till he Could make some of us understand that he was
there, So that we got all the 7 Prisoners without
any hurt Done to them

we had two of our Indians Kild by their first Shote
and three Slayttley wounded but we made them
Pay Prittey well for that What was Kild on the
Shore and Drounded in the River was a bout
2 or 3 and 40 - and we have taken 5 Prisoners
1 Collonel Camble Lieut. Chaplin one french
man - and 2 Private men

the Next Morning we Broke the Boats and set
of. A. Scom; ad George Gurtys Be haved very
well and in short we all be-haved like good
soldiers for we ad not above man for man
Reconing what men we had away

Serjt. Chapman informs me that he left oposte
the 22d, of August, and the same day Captn. Shelboy
1 Lieut, and 1 Ensign with about 30 Men and some
fue french Vollanteers and they Expected that
the Indians at the weaw Would Join them to go
against some of Our People at Saint Josephes
there was about 15 Men Remaind in the Fort at
Opost with 2 Captains and 1 Lieut. -
there is about 18 Men at Kaskaskia under the
Command of Collonel Mc. Gumerey

sir as I have got a Quantity of Letters I
thought it Best to send them forward as soon as Posaple
my self and the two Gurteys will be here as soon
as Posable we Can with the 7 men that was
Prisoners, of War, Collonel Camble is all so to Come
with us

no More at Present from your true and faithful
servant Mathew Elliot
To Captn. Lamoult Commanding at Detroit -

To
Captain Lernoult
Or Officer Commanding
His Majestys Garrison
at Detroit &c

the Illinois Country would immediately be apprised of it, and many difficulties be thereby thrown in the way of Mr. Campbell's Success — Should Major De Peyster think it would answer the intended purpose, he may Communicate it to Lt. Govr. St. Clair.

I am &c

(Signed) F. H.

No. 20

Quebec October 10th 1779

Sir

Having ordered the money which is already paid by Merchants or others for freight of Merchandize &c — together with such as may be received for the time past, and to come, on that account, to be transmitted as soon as possible to Thomas Dunn Esqr. at Quebec, you will be so good to give directions that this order is strictly complied with, and I propose not to dispose of that money until I have the approbation of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, hoping by that means to have it in my power, to make some provision for the Widows, or old age of the Naval Officers now serving on the Lakes, but I must request you to inform all these Officers, that an unremitting zeal for His Majesty's Service, and the strictest attention to such regulations as may from time to time be made by the Commander in Chief, are the only means to bring them on any respectable establishment.

The money which will in future be paid, in consequence of the regulation transmitted herewith respecting Cabbin & Steerage passengers, it is my intention should be entirely given to the Commanding Officers of the several Vessels, who carry such passengers and are at the expence of maintaining them.

I am &c (Signed) F. H.

No. 21

Quebec 11th November 1779

Sir

By Mr. Glenie I have received your Letters of the 21st & 24th past, Covering Letters and Papers from Captain Lernoult — I am much concerned to find by them that Mr. Hamilton and the Gentlemen with him are so unhappily Circumstanced, Yet I cannot think the Rebels will venture to take their lives while so many of their People are in our Power.

Sir John Johnson arrived, with the Remainder of his Detachment at Carleton Island the 28th past, that part of it which Returned to Niagara would have informed you of Sir John's disappointment in His Purpose of Cutting off the Oneidas — I fear it will not be in the Power of the few Indians who are so inclined, to Effect any thing of themselves against them, and that they will continue to poison the minds of the five Nations, as long as they are suffered to Exist — I would by all means, have the three Oneidas, who were sent Prisoners to Niagara by Sir John Johnson kept in secure Confinement as Hostages for the Conduct of their Nation — and to answer with their Lives for any that may be taken of the Five Nations by their means, and Colonel Johnson would do well to make this declaration as Public as poſsible.

I hope you have Succeeded in your endeavours to send down a good Many of the Indian Women and Children — the Convallescent men of the 8th Regiment and Rangers shall be taken care of, and sent back in the Spring — The Distribution of Provisions, you have before this time received — Your Observation that there are Resources at Detroit, which you have not, is very Just, and I hope has induced You to detain as much of the supply for that Place as you thought could be spared — I shall wait with anxiety to hear how you have paſsed the Winter, and on this account am pleased that your Garrison is no stronger, convinced that it is Sufficient against any attempt that can be made in the Course of the Winter, and from the means that have been taken to forward Provisions as soon as the River becomes Navigable, I shall be enabled to send you a Reinforcement early in the Spring — In the mean time, I am satisfied nothing will be wanting on Your Part that can contribute to the neceſsary Oeconomy that must be observed to make Your Provision hold out.

You must, long since, have Received my several Letters Accompanying Regulations for the Naval Department — Captain Schank had some time ago ordered four or five Carpenters from Carleton Island to Detroit — you would naturally detain any of them to do whatever might be needful with you, and I have directed that two Carpenters shall, for the future, be Stationed at Niagara for the Purposes mentioned in your last Letter.

I hope it will be in the power of Colonel Johnson and Major Butler to diſsuade the Cayugas and Delawares you mention from treating with the Rebels. A little time will convince them of the Rectitude of their Conduct hitherto, but should they abandon the Cause of their great Father and their Brethren in distreſs, they must never expect to be protected by the former, or acknowledged as a part of the Confederacy by the latter.

Continue to Encourage the Indians to settle upon the Geneſse River, and I shall in the Course of the Winter, send as much Indian Corn as can be Collected to Coteau du Lac, in order that it may be forwarded by the first Veſsel to be distributed amongst those who settle there; I am glad to hear that so much Corn has Escaped destruction in that Neighbourhood.

Yours, and Sir John Johnsons happy Accordance, gives me pleasure, the Variety of Services, and mixture of Troops employed in this Country requires the greatest attention in the several Officers commanding them, to preserve a good understanding, and it is a Proof of their Zeal for and attachment to their Profeſsion to make those Personal Sacrifices, which, in such Situations unavoidably occur, It is an Agreeable Part of my Duty to Expreſs my Approbation upon these Occasions, and I consider it an indispensible one, to Report to the King's Minister such Officers, to whose good Conduct I am indebted for that Pleasure.

By an Expreſs from Halifax, I have an account that 17 Transports with a Reinforcement of 2000 Men for this Province sailed some time ago from New York, so that I expect them every day — Some days ago I sent down the neceſsary Aſsistance to Conduct them up the River, but I have not yet heard from them.

I am persuaded it will give you pleasure to hear that I have had an Opportunity of Rewarding the Long Service of Capt. Lernoults, whom you have so often mentioned in those favorable Terms he is in general spoken of — I have appointed him Adjutant General, but hearing that his Constitution is not very strong, I was apprehensive the Sudden Change of Climate from Detroit to this Place at this severe season, might be hurtfull to him, and as it must give you Pleasure to have him with you, and ease You of some trouble in the Course of the Winter, he will remain at Niagara untill further Orders.

I enclose to you Regulations for Surgeons at the different Posts, that for Detroit you will please to forward, and I shall send one to Carleton Island from here.

I am &c (Signed) F. H

No. 22

Quebec 12th February 1780

Sir/

Major Butlers unwearied Zeal for, and attachment to the Good of the Kings Service, so often recommended by you in the arrangement of the Indian Department, While under his direction, has induced me to promote him to the Rank and Pay of Lieut. Colonel Commandant of his Corps of Rangers. You will please signify the same to him, and give him the inclosed Commiſsions — having made this appointment from no other Consideration than

Kopy

19

To Major Butler
at 11^{t} Nov^{r}

Niagara Nov.r 11th 1779.

Sir,

In a Letter to Capt. Mathews from Oswego I promised to give your Excellency some Account of Indian Affairs on my Arrival here. — Every Thing has been said to the Indians that could be, to prevail upon Part of them to go to Carleton Island, and others to Canada but this they do not at all incline to, and alledge many Things to excuse themselves: they say it is impossible to tell how soon they may be again attacked by the Rebels, and should any of them remove it would be out of the Power of such to assist their Bretheren when perhaps they would want Assistance most besides that it would reflect such Disgrace upon them to have intirely abandoned their Country, and make the Rebels imagine it was thro' Fear of them: they say also that as Belts & Messages have been sent in the Name of the Whole Confederacy to the western and southern Nations requesting their Assistance, it would be highly improper for any Part of them to remove till they had received an Answer. In Regard of the Difficulties respecting the Article of Provisions which were fully represented to them they replied they would submit to any Inconveniency rather than separate and would endeavour to help themselves by

Hunting

His Excellency
Gen.l Haldimand. —

Scantin &c. and if they must suffer they would che
fully Submit to it: that as they had espoused the Cau
of Government they were determined to persevere in i
under every Extremity, and in this I really think th
sincere. — However 54 Mohecons and some Cayouga
went off to the Island in the last Vessel, and I believe
Anandagoes & Delawares will also go, tho the latter hav
received an Invitation from their Brethren on the
this to go & live with them. — I suppose your Excelle
cy has been informed, before now, that the Rebels ha
abandoned their Post at Tioga with evident Sign
Precipitation.

As I have now nearly compleated my Corps, and
would ere this have had the eight Companies ful
had I not given Men to fill up the Casualties tha
are happened in every Company previous to their be
mustered, I beg leave to mention to your Excellency
Promise made by Sir Guy Carleton, signifying tha
from my long and approved Services joined to his
good Opinion of Capt. Butler, he would give me the Ra
of Lieut. Col. Commandant, & him that of Major where
there was a sufficient Number of Companies raised
admit of his doing so with Propriety. This I am give
to understand was approved of by your Excellency a
I hope will now be taken into Consideration.

I would also beg your Excellency's Permission for Capt. Butler to go to England this Fall if an Opportunity offers, as well to procure proper Arms, Cloathing &c. for the Corps as to settle some Family Concerns.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

Your Excellency's
most obedient
& humble Servant
John Butler

From △ 1779

Major Butler 11th. Nov^{r}.

Rec^{d}. 27th.

Niagara 13.th November — 1779

Sir,

The Pay Bills for the Subsistance due the Corps of Rangers Under my Command, from the 25 December 1777 to the 25 of Dec.r 177[illegible] are Now made Out According to my Beating Order, and the Muster Rolls; which will be delivered to your Excellency by Captain Butler and I hope they may be found right, and that your Excellency will see fit to direct a regular Warrant to be granted for the same —

I have charged for the Contingent Men, agreeable to the Custom of the Army, and for expences and bounty money for the enlistment of Effective Men; the latter has been Allowed me for former enlistments by Sir Guy Carleton, and for that purpose delivered me on my receiving his Orders for raising the Corps, a Sum of Money, for which I have accounted with him for the former, the Sum of money I humbly conceive my Corps entitled to agreeable to the Usage and Custom in the Army, particularly, as I was told on raising the Corps, both by the General and his Secretary, that the Rangers would be entitled to every Allowance made other troops in His Majestys Service, not Otherwise directed in the Beating Order; and when it's considered, that the Officers of Hussars or Rangers in other Countries (and in this, those belonging to the Foreign troops) are paid As Cavalry: it will not be thought unreasonable. —

The Commission for M.r [illegible] being my Quarter Master I have not yet received which your Excellency will please to deliver to Capt.n Butler.

I am much in Want of a good Adjutant. the Appointment of a deserving Serjeant, as such, to the Corps of Rangers would be of much use to them particular. and ~~tr~~ tend to the benefit of the Service in General

I have The Honour to be

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient And

Very Humble Servant

John Butler

To

His Excellency General

Haldimand.

From A copies 1779.

Coll. Johnson
Oswego 22d. Octr.
Recd. 30th.

Extract
Entd. fol 5

Copy of a Letter From Colonel Guy Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, To the Right Honble Lord George Germain one of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, dated Niagara 11th November 1779.

(No. 13)

My Lord,

Previous to my departure from Montreal, the beginning of last September, I had the Honor to inform Your Lordship of my destination at that time, a duplicate of which accompanys this Dispatch. — A few Days after, I went up the River St. Lawrence with about 130 Whites and Indians who were augmented to 220 at my arrival at Carleton Island, where accounts were just Received that the Rebels had hastily retreated out of the Indian Country, after destroying almost all the Vilages & Cornfields of the Six Nations, and that Major Butler my Deputy with a Considerable Body of the Indians, had retired to Niagara — As this in a great Measure defeated the Object the General had in View in ordering up Sir John Johnson with about 500 Men, to their Support — the next Consideration was, whether any thing farther could be undertaken with those Troops assisted by Indians, on which Subject Sir John and I conferred, and it was proposed to rendez vous at Asserotus about 35 miles west of Oswego, to Call some Indians from Niagara to that Place, and thence proceed according to Circumstances and information, and to that end a detachment was sent in Boats along the South Side of the Lake, accompanied by Capt. Lieut. Fraser and the Canada Indians, who were to send a Large Party to the Neighbourhood of Fort Stanwix to bring off Cattle and Prisoners, whilst Sir John and myself with the rest proceeded directly for Asserotus in the Vessells, but were forced by a hard Gale of Wind to go to Niagara where without loss of time we proceeded to Collect the Indians and Return to Asserotus, but this (notwithstanding the Zeal and readiness I found in the greatest Part of the Indians) was a work of some days, and from the accounts Received at Niagara, there appeared little prospect of effecting any thing beyond the harrassing the frontiers with detached parties, however, Sir John's Zeal for the Service induced him to make every Effort, and accordingly we left this place the 10th of October, and proceeded for Oswego, where it was thought best from accounts received to Collect the Whole, and where we were Joined by the Indians &c from Asserotus, but a considerable body of the Indians were obliged to march from this Place for want of Craft to transport them under the Care of Captn. Brant and other of my Officers, for whom we waited a Considerable time; during which

It was found that the Canada Indians were notwithstanding all the Pains taken by Captn Fraser, very Little attached, that they had declined going towards Fort Stanwix, and that they opposed any Measures against the Oneidas, the only object then in contemplation, with any prospect. At the same time the Generals Dispatches arrived with the distribution for Winter Quarters, and orders to Sir John Johnson to Return, accompanied with his approbation of the Measures that had been pursued, and a Letter to me for the dividing the Indians between Niagara & Carleton Island &ca on account of Provisions — About this time an Officer of my Department with five Indians, who were advanced a few Miles in front of a Body of Rangers, captured three Oneida Rebels who had been reconnoitring, and another Party took a Rebel Serjeant, from whom we learned that the Rebels had reenforced the environs of Fort Stanwix with 600 Men, & had notice of our Motions, mentioning particularly my own, Sir John Johnson in consequence of his Orders, as well as that the Party by Land had not been able to Come up, accordingly decamped, and I Returned to this Place on the 28th Ulto where I have been a good deal Occupied in endeavouring to prevail upon the Indians to Send a Large Body of their People down to Carleton Island for the Winter, which they do not Much incline to, as their late Losses induce them to be more united, however their number is now reduced to 2628. — The Majority of whom will remain here abouts, and from the Situation to which they have been reduced thro' their attachment and Sacrifices to Government, I humbly Conceive they are intitled to every mark of attention that Can be afforded, as well from principles of Justice as Policy. I propose to employ them usefully on the Communications during the Winter, & Exercise every endeavour for keeping up their Spirits and preserving their attachment to Government which has hitherto proved of so much use to His Majestys Interests, and on which the Safety of this Country so much Depends — — It is an arduous undertaking since their late Losses, but I enter on it with Confidence, in the expectation of your Lordships Countinance, and I persuade myself, If measures can be taken next Spring for reestablishing Fort Ontario (which they have much at Heart) and Supporting His majestys Arms with a proper body of Troops, they will not a Little contribute to their Success. —

I Cannot conclude without recommending the good Conduct of all my Officers, to His majestys, because I am convinced they have in their Respective Stations, acquitted themselves with as Much Zeal, and performed as much as any other Subjects of the King, and Whilst the good of the Service requires my recommending what was Mentioned in my last — respecting myself to his Royal Consideration, I cannot avoid doing that Justice to their Merits which they have faithfully deserved — I request to be honored with Your Lordships Commands, and I am with very true respect My Lord

Your Lordships most Humble and most obedt Servant

(Signed) G. Johnson —

Entered

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Guy Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs of the Six Nations, to the Right Honble Lord George Germain, dated Niagara the 11th November 1779. —

Copy

[illegible] 51

(Copy)

Quebec 11th November 1779

Sir!

I have received your letters of the 15th & 22nd past, advising of your having drawn on me for Three thousand Six hundred Pounds York Currency to settle the Accounts of Major Butler for your department, which I have honored, I with pleasure accept the assurances you give me of employing your utmost endeavours in moderating the enormous expence of the Indian Department, so loudly censured by the Nation, and so much my duty to restrict — And I likewise persuade myself that in arranging matters for the Indians of the Five Nations who are to Winter at Carleton Island, you have made choice of such Officers to accompany them as will deligently, and carefully execute their duty, and that they have your particular directions to avoid cavelling, and entering into Parties, and Jealousies, with those of Canada — The Departments, the duties, and the cause they are engaged in are the same, Indians of every Nation are pleased when well, and impartially treated — Captain Fraser will spare no pains to give general satisfaction, and if He should not succeed, it will be the fault of the Officers, and not the Indians.

I am glad to find there is a prospect of Settlements being made by the Indians upon the Genossee River I have always thought it the most advantageous for them, from its situation, and vicinity to Niagara, and I

Colonel Johnson

wish

Entered

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Guy
Johnson, Superintendent of Indian
Affairs of the Six Nations, to
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Copy

Entd. fol. 51 –

(Copy)

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Colonel Johnson

wish you to encourage them as much as poſsible in the undertaking — I shall collect as much Indian Corn as I can and have it forwarded by the first Veſsel, for the Families who settle there.

I have desired Colonel Campbell to signify to the Seven Nations of Canada, my displeasure at their Conduct in releasing the Onidas taken by Mr. Crawford's Scout, I am sorry to find that many of the Five Nations were instrumental to it — At a Time these people were aiding and aſsisting the common Enemy to exterminate their own Flesh and Blood (as they term it) it is a conduct which I cannot account for — Colonel Bolton will keep in Security the three Onidas sent in by Sir John Johnson as Hostages for the behaviour of their Nation. I wish to have the five nations made sensible that it is in their Act, and as Enemies to their happyneſs that the Onidas are thus treated. Notwithstanding what I have said of the Onida Prisoners you will act as Circumstances may require — I have sent a pair of my own double Barreled Pistols to Sayenqueraeta and Joseph, as tokens of my regard, please to give each of them one, I have had them made to hang at their Belt, there is but one Mould, your Armourer can make another by it.

I am Sir &c

(Signed) Fred. Haldimand

British Museum

(Copy)

To
Colonel Guy Johnson
at

11th Novr.)

best how to Speak to them, and we desire that you will hold them firm as we do him. – That you may not forget what we now say we give you three Strings of White Beads.

Signed for & by Request of the Cherokee Indians of that Settlement of Coosawetchtee, between the Cherokee & Creek Nations

Alexr. Cammeron Depy. Supt.

One of the Letters contained an Acct. of Col. Stewart's Decease, ~~on the~~ 21st [illegible] March 1779, and that Governor Chester had appointed Andrew Rainsford, John Mitchell, Robert Tait, Alexr. Macullagh & David Holmes Commissioners to take in Hand the Management of Indian Affairs, till his Majesty's Pleasure be known.

Tuesday 9th. This Day Capt. Johnston & Party arrived from Canawagaras having heard that we had left Oswego.

Thursday 11th – Capt. Brant and Party arrived: they had remained at Canadasagae expecting a Message from us from Oswego. tho' on our leaving Niagara that was named as the Place of

general

67. general Rendezvous upon being informed that we had le it he returned. - On his way out he had met a Meſsenger f the Rebel Gen.l Schuyler with a Letter, which he now brought with him and delivered to Col.o Johnson. It is directed to Major Butler and is supposed to be wrote in Consequen of one addreſs'd by him ~~by~~ to ~~Major Butler~~ Schuyler in June last at the Desire of the Indians to propose an Exchange for a Cay ga Woman & 2 [illegible] that had fallen into the Hands o the Rebels. The Letter is as follows,

Albany Sept.r 13th 177

Sir,

The Commiſsioners of Indian Affairs in the Northern Department acting under the Authority of the Congreſs of the united States of America, are authorized by that Body to ne gotiate an Exchange of such Citizens of the said State as may be Prisoners with the Indians or at Niagara and its Vicinity, for such other Citizens who are desirous to -to Canada, or to any Parts in Poſseſsion of the British Tro I therefore dispatch this by a Flag to be informed, if you as Superintendant of the Indians on the Part of Great Br

Great-Britain, or as commanding the Indians in the Service of that Power, are authorized to negotiate such an Exchange, if so we wish immediately to enter upon the Business, and therefore entreat your Answer by the Bearer of this.

Should you be authorized to negotiate the Exchange we would propose for the Benefit of both Parties, and that they might respectively return to their Friends before Winter, that such Citizens of the united States as are Prisoners with the Indians, or at Niagara or its Vicinity, should be sent to Fort Schuyler without Delay; and that those to be sent in Exchange, should either go to that Place or Canada, at their or your Option.—

In the latter End of July last, Col.o Thurston of the Militia and a Number of others were supposed to be taken Prisoners near the Minisink; as their Friends and Relations are exceedingly anxious to learn their Fate, they have applied to me to procure what Intelligence I could concerning them, I therefore entreat you to furnish me with the Names of those that were captivated at that Place, & if possible to inform me where they are, and how many if any remain in the Hands of the Indians: As the Duties of Humanity can never interfere with those of Of fice, I doubt not you will afford me all the Informa on in your Power on this Head.—

I have advised Mrs. Butler of this Dispatch goin to you, that she may have an Opportunity of Writi

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant

(Signed) Ph. Schuyler, President
the Board of Commission
of Indian Affairs for the N
thern Department.—

To
Colonel John Butler, Superintendant
of Indian Affairs, under the
Crown of Great-Britain —

Wednesday Novr. 17th. This Morning Mr. Wm. Johnston & Robt. Lotterige were sent with Clothing &c. to the Senecas & D lawares on the Ohio, Mr. Johnston is to remain at the Vi lage Kadagaras till further Orders & Mr. Lotterige to return after having distributed the Things.— By them Col.

Niagara Novr 12th 1779.

51

Sir,

Since my last of the 22d ulto which I had the Honor to addreſs to your Excellency, Sir John Johnson agreable to your Orders proceeded to put the Troops into Winter Quarters, I accordingly left Oswego on the 26th and arrived here the 28th where I have been constantly employed in endeavoring to get the Indians to divide their Number and send a part down the Country to which notwithstanding all Arguments made use of they seem much averse, and many of them seem to suspect we have other motives for so doing, of which Major Butler has also been informed. I inclose your Excellency the Substance of what has been said in public on the occasion, but notwithstanding the Six Nations in general are unwilling to go, yet many of them have at last been prevailed on, some of whom go by the present opportunity, and by the last Veſsell I sent 52 to Carleton Island, whilst many others are gone to hunt till Spring which has reduced their Number from 3400 to about 2600, as your Excellency will find from the Return I herewith inclose, and I hope to reduce them some hundreds more in a few days, I shou'd however observe that the late Loſses which they undoubtedly sustained for their services and Attachment to Government require all the indulgence that can be conveniently afforded to them at this time, from Motives of policy as well as of Justice, for shou'd they become too much cast down or alienated in their Affections, it must prove of fatal Consequence to this Country, and therefore I shall

endeavor

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca

indeavor to keep the minds of those who remain about these pretty well occupied during the Winter, and If I find it adviseable send partys to the frontiers, whilst those who are at present living on some remains of Corn (which at some of the Settlements was not totally destroy'd) shall have Cloathing &ca sent to them to prevent their coming here and consuming Provisions.—

Least your Excellency might not have had the particulars, I have the honor to inform you that previous to my leaving Oswego a party of 20 Rangers and an Officer, with one of my Captains & forty Indians went on a Scout to the three Rivers, when they reached the falls, it was Judged adviseable for my Captain with five Indians to go first to the place of destination which he did, and on his return fell in with and Captur'd Three Rebel Oneidas, whom I brought to this place.— It is recommended by the Senecas, that one of them (who is properly of a Tuscarora family) shou'd be released, and sent with proper and Spirited Messages to the rest. I shou'd rather think it best that they shou'd send a Deputation to Sollicit his releasement, as it might afford a means of convincing them of their errors, and possibly of attaching them once more to the Interests of Government. I ought to observe, that from all I can find, the re establishmt. of Ontario, would have a very good effect with the Indians, and I am happy to find it is an Object under Contemplation. The Extreme hurry I have been in since my return from Ontario has hitherto put it out of my power to send down my pay List, or disbursements, and indeed some of the papers necessary thereto, are still at Carleton Island & behind. Your Excellency may be assured that I shall forward them without delay, as soon as I can, as I wish

to close all these matters as soon as poſsible. —
Capt Brant is this Moment arrived and by the way
got a Letter from Schyler the Rebel General to Major
Butler in consequence of one from the latter respecting
an exchange of some prisoners, on which I wish to hear
from your Excellency. as I may have occasion to write

Your Excellency may be aſsured of my best
endeavors for the Service, and that I am with high
Esteem and respect, Sir,

Your Excellency's most Obedient
and most humble Servant

G Johnson

From 1779

Col.^d Johnson

12.^th Nov.^r Rec.^d 27.^t

Niagara 21st Novr 1779. —

Sir,

Altho little has occurred since my last of the 12th Instt I wou'd by no means omit the present opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's dispatch of the 10th Ulto, and expressing my thanks for the Bill you Honor'd, — Whilst at Ontario on Major Butlers representation I drew a Second Bill to enable him to pay off the Department to the 24th of September at Niagara, and those with me of which a particular Abstract shall be transmitted, but I am sorry to say that from the Number of Indians still remaining here, and the necessary demands for provision I have not been able to procure any of the things from Carleton Island, but Lt Col. Bolton has now directed one of the Vessells to bring as much as is consistent with the Wants of the Garrison & people here, which from contrary Winds affords little prospect of more than one Trip, and Colo. Bolton is as sensible as I am of the necessity of getting up goods from the Scarcity here, and ready to afford any Assistance that his Majesty's service requires consistent with the demands of provisions, which however will be much diminished. —

I am highly obliged by Your Excellency's approbation of Lt Wilkinsons appointment, and you may be assured I shall pay equal regard to Oeconomy as to the good of the Service in all matters, — The Circumstances of the Times and the great change produced by the Accidents that happened Just before my Arrival, may possibly create some necessary Expences in a few points exceeding what was usual, when there were fewer Indians here, and their Claims were less,

this

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca

Isle aux Noix
Novem. the 14th 1779

Sir

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 8th Inst.
The Indians arrived on the 10th & 11th to the Num. of 150 nearly with Lieuts Houghton & Crofts and Ens. Johnson – the 12th I explained to the Chiefs & communicated to your Excellency's commands so far as was necessary relating the business for which you had ordered them to assemble at this Post, and thinking it expedient (from reasons which I will have the honor to mention hereafter) that the whole should proceed to Fort Edward, told them that you intended they should go to Edward, but on their way back from Fort Edward you desired they would accompany a Party of Rangers who were quartered on a Village of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

transported off from [illegible] which [illegible] to have the
honour to mention heretofore, that the whole should
proceed to Fort Edward, but then what you
intended they should be informed, tell in the way
back from Fort Edward you desired they would
accompany a Party of Rangers who were quartered
in a Village of ten or twelve Houses [illegible]
that as Fort Edward & Fort George were very weakly
garrisoned the sending of them would be a difficult
matter. Imagining then you had been pleased
to order that twenty of the 27th Regiment should [illegible]
with them, which, with nearly an equal Number
of Rangers & Recruits that were come with Lieut.
[illegible] & Captn. [illegible] would form a strong support
to them. I should be glad that in your Excellency's
expectations were [illegible] but
observed, that I saw among them several Women
& young boys who should not be capable of march-
-ing with the celerity requisite on such occasions
and concluded by returning your thanks to the
whole for the alacrity & readiness with which

the

on all occasions they listened to your word, that you
did not doubt of their zeal to serve their Great
Father, being as strongly marked and with equal
success on this as upon former occasions —
They withdrew as is usual that they might consult
alone — in about two hours they sent for me —
and after returning thanks for your Fatherly care
on all occasions — desired I would assure your
Excellency, no people could be better disposed to
fulfill every part of your Intentions, — that
the season was too far advanced to perform the
whole, but they would attempt the surprize either
of that Corps of Rangers, or such one of the Forts
I thought they spoke to look of the latter, that I fixd
on the former — as it would lead them among the
habitations & give them opportunities of destroy-
-ing grain &c — I repeated your desire that
they should proceed with humanity, which they
promised, & set off the 13th in the afternoon —
Ens.n Battersby who has volunteered the Ranging
duty since our Arrival at this Post, requested
I would give him leave to go with the Twenty

[illegible]

Inhabitants & give them opportunities of [illegible]

=ing &c. — I instructed your Indians that

they should proceed with Unanimity, which they

promised, & set off the 13th in the afternoon —

Ens.n Battersby who has volunteered the Ranging

duty since our Arrival at this Post, requested

I would give him leave to go with the Party

Rangers — which I consented to, & hope your Excellency

will not disapprove of.

My reason for not sending any of the Party to

Cohoss was, partly from having heard, by a man

conducted by Mr. Ch.s Church that Hazen & his

Party are certainly gone to join Gen.l Washington

that the new Road was carried to the Branches of the

Missisquoi River, that Block Houses are built

at every 20 miles distance, which are occu=

=pied by Major Whitcombe & 200 men. as Mr. Church

came last from the Neighbourhood of Cohoss I

thought I might depend on his information —

Add to this, the quantity of snow which must have fallen by this time, on the Green Mountains, will make the passage very difficult. I believe a considerable party would effect a material stroke on that River as hitherto no attempt has been made that way. I thought a small one would only put them on their guard, and at present they are perfectly secure. About 300 men to be there as soon as possible in May, land at Split Rock pass over Mountains, Come on the Connecticut R. below Coase Fort & from thence sweep the whole R. North as far as the Path leading to Onion Riv.r or if necessary follow down the new Road & attempt the destruction of the Block Houses. by keeping the Country constantly alarm'd for the whole Month of May it would prevent them Planting their Indian Corn which would be a serious distress.

The Indians wished I would acquaint your Excellency that the Cattle taken last Autumn were not Paid for the reason is—there were 80 originally brought in, of which only about 27 Head arrived. the rest [illegible] between for the whole Month of May it would prevent them Planting their Indian Corn which would be a serious Mishap.

The Indians desired I would acquaint your Excellency that the Cattle taken last Autumn were all lost for the reason ie. there were 80 originally brought in, of which only about 27 Head arrived, the rest lost from the severity of the season. Whereas [illegible] & St. [illegible] offered to pay them for those that arrived safe, they insisted on being paid for the whole, & desired it should be represented to you.

I have the Honor to be

with great respect, Sir,

your Excellency's most Obed.t

and most Humble Serv.t

Chr. Carleton

His Excellency Gen.l Haldimand &c. &c. &c.

from 1779

Major Carleton

12th Mar — Recd 17th

[illegible]
Novem. the 14th 1759

26

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 9th Inst.
The Indians arrived on the 10th & 12th to the Number of 100 nearly with Lieut. Livingston of Crofts, and Ensn. Johnson — the 13th I spoke to the Chiefs & Communicated to your Excellency's Commands so far as was necessary relating to the business for which you had Ordered them to assemble at this Post — and thinking it expedient (from reasons which I will have the honor to mention hereafter) that the whole should proceed to Fort Edward, told them that you intended they should be Rewarded, but in their way back from Fort Edward you desired they would surprize a Party of Rangers who are quartered in a Village of ten or twelve Houses at [illegible]

[illegible] to assemble at [illegible] and thinking
it expedient, from reasons which I [illegible] have the
honour to inform you hereafter, that the whole should
proceed to Fort Edward, but then what you
intended they should do, otherwise, that on their way
back from Fort Edward you desired they would
surprize a Party of Rangers who were quartered
in a Village of ten or twelve Houses all of [illegible]
that as the Reward of Fort George was very weakly
garrisoned, the surprize of them would be no difficult
matter. I acquainted them you had been pleased
to order that Twenty of the 27th Regt should be sent
with them, which with nearly an equal number
of Rangers & Regulars that were come with [illegible]
thirty Men of Corps would form a strong Support
to them. I said the great trust of your Excellency's
expectations from so considerable a body, but
observed, that there among them several Women
& young boys who could not be capable of march-
ing with the activity requisite on such occasions,
and concluded by returning your thanks to the
whole for the activity & readiness with which
the

on all occasions they listened to your words, that you
did not doubt of their zeal to serve their Great
Father, being as strongly marked and with equal
success on this, as upon former occasions —
I withdrew as is usual that they might consult
alone — in about two hours they sent for me —
and after returning thanks for your fatherly care
on all occasions — desired I would assure your
Excellency; no people could be better disposed to
fulfil every part of your Intentions, — that
the season was too far advanced to perform the
whole, but they would attempt the purpose, either
of that tribe of rangers, or look at one of the Forts
I thought if they spoke to look at the latter, that I fixed
on the Former — as it would lead them among the
Habitations & give them opportunities of Destroy-
-ing grain &c. — I repeated your desire that
they should proceed with Unanimity, which they
promised, & set off the 13th in the afternoon —
Ens. Battersby who has volunteered the Ranging
Duty since our Arrival at this Post, requested
I would give him leave to go with the Twenty

on the Frontier — as it would set them among the Inhabitants & give them opportunities of taking many prisoners &c. I repeated your desire that they should proceed with Humanity, which they promised, & set off the 13th in the afternoon — Ens. Battersby who has volunteered the Ranging duty since our Arrival at this Post, requested I would give him leave to go with the Twenty Rangers — which I consented to, & hope your Excellency will not disapprove of.

My reason for not sending any of the Party to Cohoss was partly from having heard, by a scout commanded by Mr. Ol. Church that Hazen & his Party are certainly gone to join Genl. Washington that the new Road was carried to the Branches of the Missisquoi River, that Block Houses are built at every 10 miles distance, which are now occupied by Major Whitcombe & 200 men. As Mr. Church comes last from the Neighbourhood of Cohoss I thought I might depend on his information — Add to this, the quantity of snow which must have fallen by this time, on the Green Mountains, will make the passage very difficult. I believe a considerable party would effect a material stroke on that River as hitherto no attempt has been made that way, though a sudden visit would only put them on their guard, and at present they are perfectly secure. About 300 men to leave this as soon as possible in May, land at Split Rock pass over Mountains, Come on the Connecticut 15m below Clare Mont & from thence march the whole 15m North as far as the Path leading to Onion Riv. or if necessary follow down the [illegible] Road & attempt the destruction of the Block Houses by keeping the Country constantly alarmed for the whole Month of May it would prevent them planting their Indian Corn which would be a serious distress.

The Indians would I would suggest your Excellency that the Cattle taken and Prisoners were paid for the reasons there were so many lately brought in, of which only about [illegible] the Indians had killed from the scarcity of the men taken [illegible] [illegible] & Phillips I offered to buy them for their [illegible] life, they would [illegible] being paid for the Stock & prisoners I should be [illegible] by

I have the Honor to be

Signed as before, Sir

Your Excellency's most Obed

and most humble Servt.

Niagara Novr 13th 1779

Sir:

I have received your Excellency's favour of the 11th of October, and beg leave to inform you, that I have still hopes the Vessels will make two Trips this Season; if this should be the case, I flatter myself with Colonel Johnson's Assistance in prevailing on a number of the Indians to return to their Villages, I shall be enabled to get thro' the Winter tolerably well, at least you may depend that I shall exert myself to the utmost, and try every means possible to prevent this Garrison from being distressed — The probability of being besieged in the Spring is certainly a very strong motive for the Women and Children to be sent from this Post, several are gone down and many more I hope will follow them, I have also with Major Butler's Assistance sent several Families of the Rangers to Montreal; and am well convinced he will do every thing in his power to serve the Garrison — The Captains of the Armed Vessels have received Orders to navigate the Lake as long as it can be done with any degree of Safety, and I have the pleasure to assure your Excellency, that I have the greatest reason to be pleased with their Conduct, it is not possible for Officers to exert themselves more than they have done this Season — I am under the necessity of ordering the Chasseurs to Carleton Island, and of sending for two Companies of the 34th Regiment to join this Garrison, my Motive for making this Alteration in the distribution of the Troops in the upper Posts is entirely owing to their not being obliged to march by Treaty, which their Officers have informed me of, and also that it is not in my power to supply them with Cash at this Post, I have already borrowed two hundred pounds from Major Butler which Captain Wittgenstein gave him a bill for on the Pay Master General — I must also observe to your Excellency that we have more to do in this Garrison at present than the Soldiers of the Kings Regiment can possibly accomplish without some Assistance; besides in the Spring the Works towards the Land Side in all probability will be in ruins which has been the case for several years past as Captain Mathews can inform you, this will be the time too when the Enemy are most likely to be expected — Captain Wittgenstein is an Officer of a very amiable Character and upon all occasions has given every Assistance in his power, in case we should be attacked in the Spring I am well convinced the Detachment of Chasseurs would be of great Service to this Post — I have very little News from Detroit more than every thing seems to be in a State of Tranquillity — Many of the Rangers are sick, and the Corps in general are in great distress for want of Cloathing (owing to their repeated losses in the Indian Expeditions) This disagreeable Circumstance, and your Excellency's final Orders in regard to the distribution of the Troops not being as yet arrived has induced me to postpone sending fifty of them to Detroit until the Spring when that Number shall be ready to embark on board the first Vessel that arrives — Except four Batteau Loads all the Merchandise for Detroit and Michilimackinac has been forwarded — Joseph has just returned from the Three Rivers and has brought me a Letter that an Indian gave him, a Copy of which I have inclosed —

I am
Sir, with great Respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P.S.
I inclose a Distribution of the
Troops in the upper Country —

His Excellency General Haldimand —

From — 1779

Lieut. Col. Bolton of the 15.
Nov.r Recd 5.th December
with 2 enclosures —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Distribution of the
Troops of Upper Country
Inclosed in Lt Boltons letter
of 15 November

Distribution of Troops in the Upper Country

Niagara & Small Forts Depending

	R & File	
Kings Regt 5 Companies Compleat	280	
Yagars	100	
Major Butlers Rangers	300	680

Detroit

Kings Regt 3 Companies Compleat	168	
Part of Do to be sent in the Spring to compleat two Companies at Michilimackinac	50	
47th Regiment	125	
Major Butlers Rangers	50	393

Michilimackinac

Kings Regiment two Companies Compleat	62

Carleton Island

34th Regiment	162	
Sir John Johnsons	200	362

Sir John Johnsons Detatchment		Rank & File
	34th Regiment	162
	84th	51
	Sir John Johnson's Corps	200
	Yagars	100
		513

Upper Canada

[illegible]

Detroit

[illegible]

Carleton Island

[illegible]

Copy

Albany Septemr. 13th. 1779

Sir,

The Commiſsioners of Indian Affairs in the Northern Department, acting under the Authority of the Congreſs of the united States of America, are authorized by that body to negotiate an Exchange of such Citizens of the said States as may be Prisoners with the Indians, or at Niagara and its Vicinity, for such other Citizens who are desirous to go to Canada, or to any Parts in Poſseſsion of the British Troops; I therefore dispatch this by a Flag, to be informed, If you as Superintendant of the Indians on the Part of Great Britain, or as Commanding the Indians in the service of that Power, are authorized to negotiate such an Exchange, If so, we wish immediately to enter on the Buſineſs, and therefore entreat your answer by the Bearer of this.—

Should you be authorized to Negotiate the Exchange, we would propose for the benefit of both Parties, and that they might respectively return to their Friends before Winter, that such Citizens of the united-States which are Prisoners with the Indians or at Niagara or its Vicinity, should be sent to Fort Schuyler without delay, and that those to be sent in Exchange, should either go to that place or Canada, at their or your Option.

In the latter end of July last, Colonel Thurstin of the Militia and a Number of Others were supposed to be taken Prisoners near the Minisink, as their Friends and Relations are exceedingly Anxious to learn their fate, they have applied to me to procure what Intelligence

I—

I could concerning them, I therefore entreat you to furnish me with the Names of those that were captivated at that Place, and if poſsible to inform me where they are, and how many If any remain in the hands of the Indians, as the duties of humanity can never interfere with those of Office – I doubt not but you will afford me all the information in Your power on this head.

I have advised Mrs. Butler of this dispatch going to you, that She may have an opportunity of writing.

I am, Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Ph. Schuyler
President of the Board of
Commiſsioners of Indian Affairs
for the Northern Department

To
Colonel John Butler Superintendant
of Indian Affairs under the Crown
of Great Britain ——

Copy of a Letter from
Ph: Shuyler, dated at
Albany Sepr: 13th: 1779,
to Colo: John Butler
concerning an Exchange
of Prisoners —
Inclosed in Col. Bolton's Letter
of the 15th Nov: Recd. 5. Decr.

Upper Shawanese Villages Nov.r 16th. 1779

Sir,

I have the Honor first to acknowledge the receipt of your favor the 13th. instant, with the answer to the Chiefs & Warriors of those several Villages, which I immediately communicated to them, endeavouring to convey to them in the most favorable light, your wish to support them with Troops when enabled thereto by the Commander in Chief. And so soon as the Indians of the lower Villages can be collected, shall proceed to Sandusky to deliver the Cloathing, Ammunition &c. agreeable to your directions — I am to inform you, that the present occasion of my Writing, is an important discovery of the designs of the Enemy by a Shawanese Indian, who attended for this purpose a meeting held by the Enemy at Fort Pitt, the most material parts of which, I have collected in writing and herewith enclose — It was intended to have been kept a profound secret to all but the Friends of that Interest; But the above Indian finding means to bring off the Hatchet and Scalps, has made a clear discovery of the determinations of the Cooshawking Delawares to assist the Virginians against them, It could have been also forwarded by this opportunity, but some suspected Chiefs are to be brought to an Explanation upon it, however it is their desire that you should be as soon as poſsible apprized of it, as well as all the Nations of your Children Inhabiting the Lakes — This discovery undoubtedly points out more and more the neceſsity of Troops to support His Majesty's Interest in this quarter, and a few to act in conjunction with a good Body of Indians in an Incursion towards Cooshawking would have a good Effect upon the greatest part of the Delawares, Notwithstanding their promises to the Rebels. 18th. was presented in Council by two Delaware Meſsengers, three Calumits Two of which were sent to the Nations this way from Post Vincent by a French Officer, who informed them that he was come to speak to all Nations in the Name of their antient Father the French King who had during the last War, been thrown upon his Back by the English, but remembered and hoped that they did not forget to have told his Indian Children that he would one day or other rise to them again, and as that time was now come, He made no doubt they would listen with attention to his Voice, and smoke with Pleasure his Pipe of Peace untill they should hear further from him: He hoped shortly to convince them that the English and Virginians would be subject to him, being determined to occupy all Canada as formerly – And tho' the Virginians threat'ned to Extirpate all the Indians, He would not allow it – And was going shortly to the Falls of Ohio to meet 3,000 men assembling for that Purpose, which He would prevent, desiring them to have a good heart and repair to meet them at that Place, where they would find a White Flag hoisted as an Emblem of Regard to them; therefore to have no fear in going thither to receive from him three Boat Loads of Goods, which he had already prepared for them at that Place. – The other Calumit was delivered to the above Messengers by some Chiefs representing the Wabash confederacy, letting them know that they were glad to see the Delawares take their Ancient Fathers the French again by the Hands: And their kindness in promising to restore Peace to their Country, They hoped, would be embraced by all Nations, and as to themselves, They were determined to mind their hunting and enjoy Peace as formerly, in confirmation of which, desired the Shawanese and Delawares to take their Pipe of Peace, hoping it might incline them to do the same – A String of Wampum was delivered at the same time in the name of the Ottawas, expressing Sentiments to the same purpose. The Frenchman who held this Council at Post Vincent, came from New Orleans and is the Son of a French Partizan last War – A Message was received from a Tribe of the Cooshawking Delawares to day declaring their intentions of holding fast their antient Friendship with the several Nations to the Westward and that a Deputation of their Chiefs were going to Fort Pitt, to desire the Virginians to desist from their design of Building a Fort at Cooshawking; The request that had been made for this purpose was not general, and those who made it, were consider as drunken Men, who knew not what they did – The Return of those Indians from Fort Pitt, whither they are gone chiefly from Cooshawking, will bring us some certain information of the Enemy's Motions, having some Persons employed to wait at that Place for this End: But as the season is so far advanced, it scarcely is probable they will attempt any thing 'till towards Spring, and then perhaps only against the Indians, for their hopes of Success against Detroit, must be nearly vanished.

It has been my earnest Desire by continuing here for near Two Years, to contribute what little was in my Power in opposing their Designs on this account; But as my private affairs requires my going to Europe, embrace the earliest opportunity of making you acquainted with my inclination of setting out in the Spring, so soon as the Navigation of the Lakes will permit. I have intimated my Desire of going to Canada to His Excellency The Commander in Chief, to which I have not as yet been favored with an Answer — In the mean time, shall not fail of using my utmost Endeavours in gaining the best intelligence of the Enemy's designs in this Quarter, & have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

(Signed) Alexr. McKee

Major DePeyster.

Copy of a Letter from Capt.
Mc.Kee to Major DePeyster,
dated Shawanese Villages the
16th Novemr. 1779

69. that Place, & if possible to inform me where they are, and how many if any, remain in the Hands of the Indians: As the Duties of Humanity can never interfere with those of Office, I doubt not you will afford me all the Information in your Power on this Head.—

I have advised Mrs. Butler of this Dispatch going to you, that she may have an Opportunity of Writing

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble Servant

(Signed) Ph. Schuyler, President of
the Board of Commissioners
of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department.—

To
Colonel John Butler, Superintendent
of Indian Affairs, under the
Crown of Great-Britain

Wednesday Novr. 17th. This Morning Messrs. Wm. Johnston & Robt. Lottrige were sent with Clothing &c. to the Senecas & Delawares on the Ohio, Mr. Johnston is to remain at the Village Kadagaras till further Orders & Mr. Lottrige to return after having distributed the Things.— By them

Col. Johnson sent the following Speech to the Indians—

Brothers!

I send you Lt. Johnson & Lt. Lottrige to salute you in my Name and to give my Love & Regard to all your Chiefs & Warriors, and also to your Women & Children whose Case I have considered, and as I am sensible many of you have met with Loßes of late I have agreeable to my Promise to Kayashota sent you by this Opportunity a Quantity of Cloathing for your People, & also some Powder and Lead to enable your Warriors to hunt for their Families which I hope will enable you to subsist for a few Moons without being under the Neceßity of coming to Niagara where Provisions will be very scarce on Account of the great Number of Indians that have been supplied here, & the Lateneß of the Season which will prevent our getting more from Carleton Island. In the Spring we shall be well supplied, in the mean Time I have ordered your Friend Lt. W. Johnston to aßist his Relation who is with you, & to remain at your Place during the Winter, and he will transmit me any News you have. Your Friend Lt. Lottrige will, after he has given out the Clothing return & inform me how you are.

Brother!

By this Belt I recommend it to you to keep
your Eyes on your Great Father the King of England &
his Officers, to shut your Ears against bad Birds if any
should come about you, to keep a watchful Eye up
on Fort Pitt & recommend the same to the Delawares, an
to let me know any thing that regards public Affairs
faithfully as I mean always to do the like towards you,
and to regard you with the same Affection you experi
ced from your former Friend & Protector Sir Wm. John
son, & from your Friend Major Butler during my A
sence. He by this Opportunity reminds you of his Mes
to you about the Prisoner Girl for whom you shall
have another the first Prisoners that are taken, & I re-
commend it to you to grant this Request which will
be obliging me also.

A Belt, 8 Rows. —

Note, Tell the Indians that if their Nephews the Delawar
bring in the Women & Children they have Prisoners am
them they shall receive something for them.

The same Day the Indians met at Col^{o}. Johnsons House,
Present as follows,

Col^{o}. Johnson Sup^{t}.
L^{t}. Col^{o}. Bolton
Major Butler }
John Deace Esq^{r}. } Dep^{y}. Agents
John Powel }
Joseph Brant } Cap^{ts}.
Jos. Clement, L^{t}.
Rich^{d}. Cartwright Sec^{y}.
Nich^{s}. Stevens, Interpreter

and every Body being seated, Dehaguendy an Onandagoe Chief began as follows, viz.

Brothers! When we were at Oswego we heard that the Rebels had wrote a Letter to Col^{o}. Butler, & that Col^{o}. Butler had wrote to them last Summer; but what we heard of the Matter was very imperfect & we wish to be fully informed.

Col^{o}. Johnson gave them to understand that it was chiefly for this Purpose that he had called them together to Day. He read Schuylers Letter to them & had it explained, and also ~~mentioned~~ spoke of ~~the Occasion~~ of Col^{o}. Butlers Letter which had been wrote last Summer at the Sollicitation of their Chiefs to propose an Exchange for a Cayouga Woman & 2 Children who had fallen into the hands of the Rebels at Onandagoe. He also told them

that

73.

that as the Veſsels were now near the Harbor, & would very
soon leave this again, any of them ~~that inclined~~ to go wo
have an Opportunity in a few Days: his Reason for me
tioning this he said was that he had heard many of
since the last Meeting had wished to go down the Co
try. He again aſsured them that there was no other
tive for his preſsing this Matter but their own Advanta ~~Interest~~, & tha
he would much rather have them here than in any o
Place could they poſsibly be supplied with Provisions, be
that an Estimate had been made & it was found tha
all the Provisions that could be got hither this Season
would not maintain more than Half their present Nu
ber.

After consulting together for some Time Tewethorese, a
Cayouga Chief got up, & having first repeated what Col.
Johnson had said, told him that the Correspondence
with the Rebels had originated from a Letter which Ca
Butler wrote to Schuyler from Cerry Valley about Pris
ers, which they knew Nothing of at the Time it was don
that they had desired Major Butler to write last Sum
mer ~~to which~~ & they supposed this letter was come in Answer: they

thanks

thanked Col.o Johnson for having explained it to them, & for ~~asking their Advice~~ consulting them about what would be proper to answer. Their Sentiments on this Head they said should be delivered by the Onandagoes who were the Speakers of the Confederacy.

Tehaqwondy accordingly ~~[illegible]~~ got up, & said as the Rise of the Correspondence had been already explained by the Person who spoke last it remained for him, in the Behalf of the Confederacy, to offer their Thoughts, and request Col.o Johnson's Advice on the present Occasion. He said that they were greatly concerned for some of their Cayouga Friends who were in the Hands of the Rebels & they did not know how they might be treated: that they used their Prisoners very well & had set at Liberty many People that were in their Power in Expectation of a like Return from the Rebels, but were disappointed; that therefore they did not think it adviseable to rely upon these People till they had sent Home their Cayouga Friends, but they wished Col.o Johnson would write a Letter, which they would accompany with a Message, & would also, by the same Opportunity, say something to the Oneydas on the Subject of their Behavior & Thr= against the Senecas & other Friends to the King. He said they wished to have Col.o Johnson's Opinion about it, & would be guided by ~~guided by~~ his Advice, & that they thought it a Business not to be neglected.

With Regard to what had been mentioned of their going down the Country, Dehaqwendy said that many of the People were sick or he would eer now have given in the Number that would go, that however many would emb this Opportunity, & that they, (the Chiefs,) would encourage it.

Col.o Johnson replied that he had considered attentively what they had said, & returned them Thanks for giving their Sentiments so candidly: He told them that it was a Matter that required some Deliberation ~~f~~ before he coul ~~his giving~~ give an Answer. that there was no Cartel of Exchang established between the Kings People & the Rebels, and theref according to the Customs of the White People, it was a nice Point for him to interfere in, more especially as he ha already wrote to the General upon it: that however as it was a Matter they were particularly urgent in, he woul consider it further and make them an Answer in a few Day

After this they were dismissed with a little Liquor.

Tuesday Nov.r 23.d Early this Morning a Number of Indians

Extract of Col.o Johnsons Letter dated Niagara
21st Nov.r 79. to Danl Claus Esqr &c.

"I have been harrassed beyond
" Description ever since my Return from Oswego to
" this place and tho I took infinite pains and
" held several Meetings, I have not been able as
" yet to reduce the Number of Indians lower than
" 2900. from 3500. once indeed there were less,
" but others have since come in. Abt. 350. have
" gone & are now going to Carleton Island
" and I believe a great part of whom will go
" down to Canada, but they manifest such
" an Aversion to seperate as is insurmountable
" and indeed I am well informed that they
" suspect we have some evil Design in urging
" them, for many of them say that their not
" being supported early in the Summer, appears
" to them to have been purposely done for their Ruin
" An Idea which I have taken all possible Care
" to remove. I shall get a large Body of them to

" go out upon the Hunt till towards Spring which will
" lessen their Number here, and I have sent two Officers
" with Goods to cloath their Villages near Ohio, to
" prevent their coming in here & consuming Provisions.
" I hope besides to be able to amuse them a little on the
" Frontiers during the Winter & to promote the Service by
" various Means, notwithstanding the very different
" Situation of things here from what they have been,
" As just before my Arrival you know the Indians
" recd a Blow, which without great pains & Attention
" might have proved fatal to His Majs Interest, and
" Majr Butler tells me he wrote to the General on the
" Difficulties & Expence it must necessarily occasion.
" I am indeed greatly at a Loss about Cloathing & Presents
" for what was brought up & collected about is nearly
" consumed, and the great Demand for Provisns here
" has put it out of Lt Col. Boltons power to permit my
" Things to be brought from Carleton Island where they are,
" he has now promised me however to let the Vessells now
" going bring a part of them, which is as much I believe
" as he can do. I am likewise greatly at a Loss for the
" Want of my Acct Books, papers &ca and some Merchants
" Accts the greatest part of which are still behind, so that
" if I even had time which is not the case at present, it

" would not be in my Power to make up my Abstracts or
" arrange many necessary Matters."

Extract of a Letter from Robt. Picken, late Secretary to Majr. Butler to Danl. Claus Esqr. dated Niagara 19. Novr. 79. —

" There has been communicated to Timothy Murphey,
" Armourer & Blacksmith to the 6 Nat. by Majr. Butlers
Appointmt. by a particular Indn. Friend of his, an
" Affair which I will here relate to you: That since
" the Indians were driven in here, they have drawn
" Provisions for numbers under a pretence of going to
" hunt in order to get a Sufficiency for sending a party
" with Messages & a Flag to make peace with Virginia.
" The Indian likewise informed Murphey that the
" Indians say, since the King brought them into War
" and Trouble by which Means they lost their Country
" and promising them Assistance without performing
" it, they look upon it as a Design merely to amuse
" & deceive them, and therefore held several Councils
" where he was present and they fully determined to
" surprize one of the Frontier Forts and keep it for the
" Rebels, finding that what the Rebels told them from
" time to time to be true; by which Means they may be
" Friends with them, and recover their Country again.

The

Extract Col.o Johnson & Mr. Pickin

The Indian likewise says that they had Messages from the Western Nations signifying their Dissatisfaction & Concern for the loss of their Country, and they do not blame the Rebels but the King, & intend to be against him.

The Indian told the Manner by which they intended to put their Scheme in Execution which was to draw Provisions & Ammunition often in small quantities under pretence of going to hunt untill they had a sufficient Quantity. That they were preparing Knives, Swords and short Guns in order the easier to conceal them. That whatever place they should agree to strike upon, they would come in with some important News, and pretend great Friendship & Eagerness to go ag.st the Enemy, that after they had sufficiently lulled & amused them with their Story & saw themselves unsuspected, they then at once would fall upon & destroy them; And he the Indian believes that if they could not get an Opportunity ag.st Niagara or Detroit, they were sure of Fort Erie where they would find sufficient Provisions & Ammunition for a while. the same plan they intend ~~they intend~~ to make use of at the other Forts.

Sir I have communicated the above Intelligence to Col.o Johnson who took some Minutes of it —

Rob.t Pickin

BRITISH MUSEUM

From G. Johnson to Col. Claus.

(Copy)

Niagara, 21st Nov. 1779.

Dear Brother:

I have received and thank you for your several kind letters and I am very sensible of the reasonableness of what you say respecting family expenses and the propriety of supporting the credit of it. You have obliged me much in sending for a harpischord for Polly; and I think it was right to put Julia under the care of a woman so well qualified, and I am glad she likes the place. I sincerely condole with you on the loss of my poor friend Kreuser who was an honest worthy young man.

As for myself I have been harrassed beyond description ever since my return to this place and tho' I took infinite pains, and held several meetings, I have not been able as yet to reduce the number of Indians lower than 2900 from 3500; once, indeed, there were less, but others have since come in. About 350 have gone and are now going to Carleton Island ~~and~~ a great part of ~~them~~ whom will go down to Canada, but they manifest such an aversion to separate as is unsurmountable, and indeed, I am well informed that they suspect we have some evil design in urging them, for many of them say that their not being supported early in the summer appears to them to have been purposely done for their ruin, an idea which I have taken all possible care to remove. I shall get a large body of them to go out upon the hunt till towards spring, which will lessen their number here: and I have sent two officers with goods to clothe three Villages near Ohio, to prevent their coming in here and consuming provisions. I hope besides to be able to amuse them a little on the frontiers during the winter, and to promote the service by various means. Notwithstanding the very different situation of things here from what they have been, as just before my arrival you know the Indians received a blow which without great pains and attention might have proved fatal to His Majesty's interests and Major Butler tells me he wrote to the General on the difficulties and expenses it must necessarily occasion. I am, indeed, greatly at a loss about clothing and presents, for what was brought up and collected about is nearly consumed and the great demand for provisions here has put it out of Lt. Col. Bolton's power to permit my things to be brought from Carleton Island where they are. He has now promised me, however, to let the vessels now going bring a part of them, which is as much I believe as he can do. I am likewise greatly at a loss for the want of my account books, papers &c and some merchants accounts, the greatest part of which are still behind; so that if I had time (as indeed I have not at present) It is not in my power to make up ~~any~~ my abstracts, or arrange many necessary matters.

The foregoing paragraph which is strictly true, I think you would do well to extract and forward to the General; there are many good reasons for it, as some parts could not be so well introduced in my letter to him; and indeed I fear I ~~shall~~ shan't ~~not~~ be able to write him by this opportunity. You will see from it how impossible it is for me immediately to fulfil your wishes and my own inclinations about cash. However your draft shall be honored and everything else done to your satisfaction when I send my abstract.- which I could do now if my trunks &c from Halifax were arrived and which Gov. Hughes has ~~written~~ wrote me were sent to Quebec in August under care of a Major Rogers. I have many accounts in them which must come into my abstracts and I have some more still at Carleton Island- whilst I find numbers of accounts coming in here and officers demands all which will far exceed what I have got from the General. ~~Dobin~~ Dobier Dst. can be paid immediately, but really he has not done all that I wished either with respect to my things or other matters, having sent several old shopkeepers for which I had no occasion &c.&c.

However I wish him well and shall occasionally show it, notwithstanding all this, and his great hurry for balances, which need not have been against me if I had found leisure to write him. I must add that if I find it practicable on arranging the sums immediately in demand, I'll give a draft for your private balance or part, before I get my abstract paid. There are many people at me about cargoes of Indiangoods but most men in trade are nearly alike. They will say anything to get a cargo charged to me, but before it comes up, half is plundered or stolen, and a great part consists of things they want to get off their hands and for which I have no occasion. I just now gave Thompson a draft for £1000 Halifax currency for articles great part not usually required and for which he has not yet given me any acct fit to be transmitted to the General, neither has his brother (my storekeeper) when I called upon him agreeable to repeated orders been able to produce me an acct of what he has issued or how, altho by agreement he was to do so every fortnight, this must arise either from ignorance or iniquity, tho' I rather think the former, but from whatever cause I (who have so many eyes upon me) must be the sufferer as those before me had clever hands who kept things in such method as would surprise you.

The two females you mention are not agreeable to the Commanding Officer from their conduct. He tells me that Molly used to go to the stores and take out everything she pleased and give to her particulars. She is certainly you know pretty large minded I have taken care that she should have plenty: besides which she made a visit here and helped herself. I shall continue my attention to her, but from the works carrying on which keeps up my people from under cover she could not possibly find a place suitable and stays at Carleton Island. I fear that any expense or attention will fall short of her desires tho' I wish to gratify them; and many other things are said ~~that~~ wch I cannot now explain. The General has lately wrote Major B. that he hopes he'll give me that [illegible] assistance which his superior knowledge and longer acquaintance with Indians enables him to do.

As to Lt. Adams I really don't know what to say to him; all my solicitations were ineffectual to bring him up. I hear he ~~has~~ is since come to Carleton Island, but without the General's particular ~~understanding~~ orders I don't see a man should be on my list who is fixed to a post, or who is not to obey any of my orders.

I think I have now answered (as far as my hurry and frequent interruptions would permit) the principal parts of your letters. I wish for an opportunity of writing again soon, and more agreeably in the interim be assured of my true regard and that with my best wishes for sister Claus and the whole, ~~family~~

I remain,

Dear ~~Sir~~, Col Claus

Your sincere friend and Affect. brother

(Sgd) G. Johnson

I hope little Nancy is got well.

Col. Claus.

21st November, 1779.

From G. Johnson,

Niagara.

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probable they would have publickly entered warmly into it, however I have good hopes that large party's may be made, during the Winter, composed solely of those who are determined Enemys to the Oneidas, by which the business may be effected and it has been all along my inclination to push matters in that way as the most promising

Major Butler who arrived here the 20th. with the rest of the Indians that were to come by Water, having just before my arrival at Niagara, settled Accounts with the Officers &c of the Department, wishes much to be reimbursed agreable thereto. I take the Liberty to drawn on your Excellency for £3600 N.Y. Curr.y which will answer that demand, and your Excellency may be assured that so soon as it is possible the whole Accounts shall be made up and transmitted for your Inspection.

I have communicated your Excellency's Intentions to Sayenqueraghta who is highly gratified by that mark of your attention to him, and I shall pay due regard to what you mention respecting the Merchants Goods hoping at the same time, that the part of them from England may arrive shortly.

Your Excellency may rely on my care to avoid any Steps that can prove injurious to His Majesty's Service, and that I am very sensible how far Major Butler can be serviceable thereto, who will I believe assist me in the line of my Department for some time; At the same time I take the Liberty to suggest to your Excellency that every days experience convinces me of the propriety of solliciting that some clear determination may take place, respecting my Rank in the Field, that I may not be in a predicament in which no other Officer is on these occasions, which must prove prejudicial to my Influence with the Indians, & injurious to me in some measure as I was assured and fully expected that the Indians of that Confederacy were my Corps, or at least that I was on a Provincial footing. I shall take particular care that no Action of mine shall Interrupt harmony in any line of Service, and [illegible] to [illegible] this matter to your favorable Opinion which I promise you Sir I shall endeavour to deserve

I am Sir &c (Signed) G Johnson

Niagara 21st November 1779

Sir

Little has occurred since my last of the 12

Instan

Instant, I would by no means omit the present opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's Dispatch of the 16th Ultimo, and expreſsing my thanks for the Bill you honored — Whilst at Ontario on Major Butlers representation I drew a Second Bill to enable him to pay off the Department to the 24th of September, at Niagara, and those with me of which a particular Abstract shall be transmitted, but I am sorry to say that from the Number of Indians still remaining here, and the neceſsary demands for provision, I have not been able to procure any of the things from Carleton Island, but Lieut Colo Bolton has now directed one of the Veſsels to bring as much as is consistent with the wants of the Garrison & people here, which from contrary winds affords little prospect of more than one Trip, and Colonel Bolton is as sensible as I am of the necessity of getting up Goods from the scarcity here, & ready to afford any aſsistance that His Majesty's Service requires consistent with the demands for provisions, which however will be much diminished.

I am highly obliged by your Excellency's approbation of Lieutenant Wilkinson's appointment, and you may be aſsured I shall pay equal regard to Oeconomy as to the good of the Service in all matters. — The Circumstances of the Times and the great change produced by the Accidents that happened, Just before my arrival may poſsibly create some neceſsary Expenses, in a few points exceeding what was usual when there were fewer Indians here, and their Claims were leſs, this was what I principally wished to observe in the paragraph mentioned by your Excellency, which with great concern I find has been misconceived, and Major Butler has aſsured me that he pointed out these additional difficulties shortly after the Rebel invasion.

I persuade myself your Excellency will believe that a person who was so far honored by the late Sir William Johnson as (notwithstanding the nearer Ties of Blood and affection in which other able & worthy Personages stood) to be recommended to His Majesty *to be the only person who from application to Indian affairs* he thought qualified to *succeed him in the compaſs of his knowledge*, Must be zealous to deserve that Character, and I do aſsure your Excellency that I have not a little Confidence in Contemplating that it may be in my power to merit some part of that recommendation, & thereby acquire a Claim to (what I shall be most flattered with) the Esteem of a General of Discernment and Integrity.

I propose to get out a good party about the end of next Month, which will save provisions and probably meet with some Succeſs, and I beg to aſsure your Excellency of the perfect Respect & Esteem with which

I am &c (Signed) G Johnson

Lieut. Colonel Bolton will from what I have already Experienced, I am persua concur with me in any thing he thinks reasonable respecting any partys that may incline to go out, Major Butler affords every Aſsistance, and I have great reason to be satisfied with the Conduct of all my Officers.

Niagara May 3d 1780

Sir

I was lately honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 10th February, by expreſs from Carleton Island, which thro the uncommon severity of the Weather was our first intelligence from thence —— I have now the honor to enclose Copys of my Transaction with the Indians, with a Return of the Department and them, the pay list and the Accounts of Expenses &c for the Amount of which I have taken th liberty to draw upon your Excellency. I likewise enclose intelligence received from the Prisoners, and the State of Prices &c from Papers & Accounts taken from them by the Indians, with the Number of Prison and Killed, from the former the great diſtreſses and difficulties of the people will evidently appear, and it corresponds with that from other quarters.

Permit me to aſsure your Excellency that I am highly satisfied with the conduct of the Indians, and with their attention to me, and that their affairs are so methodized, as to promise as much regularity and oeconomy as can be expected from the nature of my Department at presen the particulars of which I have made the Subject of a seperate Letter, only here observing that notwithstanding the Superiority of their numbers for many Months, they have been duly attended to, and are well contented.

As I could not expect your Commands for some time about the Rebel General Schuylers Letter mentioned in min of 12th November, it was judged adviseable by Lieut. Colo. Bolton and myself, that I should gratify the desire of the Indians (signified at two meetings at which he was present) to write to him by thei Meſsengers who desired the release of their People otherwise they would retaliate on Prisoners, which with his Letters since will appear in the Papers herewith —— After delivering your Excellen presents which were most thankfully received, and bestowing some handsome Cloaths on Sayengaraghta, and a few principal men, an performing the usual Condolence, I held some private Conferences with them on the propriety of harraſsing the Frontiers, to shew the Spirit of the Indians, to leſsen the Consumption of Provisions, and to gain intelligence, and proceeded to Cloath the Indians on the ground being upwards of three thousand — The Chiefs and Warriors approved my proposals but the Severity of the Season beyond what had ever been remembered rendered it impracticable during that time or in January to proceed, however many made preparation, and Captain Brandt, began to collect a large Body, Shenop the Nanticoke Chief was alert on the occasion, as well as some Gallant Senecas and others, to whom I gave Belts for their Encouragement, and by his alertneſs Captain Brant was enabled to march the middle of February with Captain Nelles and other Officers & 220 Indians — A party of 25, soon followed with Shenop; another of 30 Senecas, succeeded by a larger & some Delawares — At same time the Son to the late Chief called the Bunt (of Onandago) sent me belts of Wampum deposited there, as a proof of his Sincerity, having escaped from the Rebels with thirty of his people.

During this period the Rebells and their Emiſsaries were not idle, many evil Reports were circulated by them which required some dexterity to discountenance, and Captain Brants party fell in with four disaffected Indian Chiefs who came on an Embaſsy from their people, but partly from the Congreſs to draw the Six Nations from Government, however matters were so Conducted that the Indians gave them the spirited answer which may be found in the Transactions herewith, and I afterwards renewed the Covenant Chain & Axe belt with the Confederacy. — But the Severity of the Weather, and a Sickneſs breaking out in Captain Brants party (of which some died) greatly retarded them, and for better convenience they took different Routes, Captain Brant with Twenty four took ten men and killed four near Schohare, among the former is Captain Harper a busy Partizan, a Deserter from Fort Stanwix also joined him. — The Delawares killed Seven, and took Six men, below Wioming, but some of them rising in the Night killed three of the Indians, Captain Shenop near the same place took and destroyed a boat with Stores for the Fort, killed one Officer, and took four men, among them is a late Continential Lieutenant, the Seneca Party took two men near Bethelem, and two other partys killed eight and brought in a prisoner, but Captain Brant & Shenop with the rest deserve Notice for having agreeable to my desire generously liberated above Twenty Women & Children who fell into their hands, which will shew that Indians do not always deserve the Reproaches of Rebels. I have still five party's out, and two m preparing so that the Rebels will be alarmed from Fort Stanwix to Fort Ou in some degree as they are on the other Side of those from Canada & Carleton Island. My Accounts from the Westward from Captain McKee respecting the conduct of the Six Nations, Shawanese and Delawares abou Ohio is likewise very pleasing, I had sent Kayashota that way last fall, an he is now gone with several other Chiefs through that Country with Belts and Messages from the Indians and myself, agreeable to the proceedings herewith transmitted; The particulars of transactions with the Shawanese &c will appear from the Papers which Lieut. Colonel Bolton has sent by this opportunity. — I have only now to add that from the best Accounts lately received, the greater part of the disaffected Oneidas are desirous of coming in, and joining their Confederacy if they can get off; I know it would injur the Rebel Interest, and that many of these Indians were governed more by Situation than by their will, however as I know the Duplicity of many of them, I shall be sufficiently guarded on that Subject— Lieutenant Colonel Butler is always ready to give every requisite assistance in the Department; and I have experienced an attention in all my Officers which can only be equalled by their Zeal for His Majesty's Service, and my good wishes and endeavors to promote it.

I am Sir &c Signed G. Johnson

Niagara May 3rd 1780

Sir

Having in the letter which accompanies this given your Excellency a Sketch of Public Transactions to the present time with inclosures referring thereto, I think it my duty in this to lay other matters before you.

Agreable to the State of my Department last Way after consulting Lieut. Colo. Bolton, and obtaining necessary information from Major Butler, I posted my Officers according to their Abilities to seven different Companies or Divisions of Indians by which means they are mutually better acquainted, and the Indians more easily attended to, An Officer of each always attending to see them supplied, and inspecting into and reporting every thing regularly, preserving the same order in Returns to prevent frauds in their drawing Provisions and only issuing Cloathing &c by order which is always entered, the same rule is observed in issuing Rum and Vouchers Monthly examined, so that notwithstan the number of Indians for many Months has exceeded 3000. The Consumptio

tio

has been by no means proportional. The Rum in the Garrison being nearly out I by the advice of Lieut Colo. Bolton bought up what I could here, to provide against accidents, which altho it has enlarged Accounts, has not as yet been much expended. The effects of these regulations could not from the present number, and late losses of the Indians be immediately felt, but they are put in my apprehension into the fairest channel, in point of method and for future retrenchment, neither is there any person unnecessarily employed: I ought however to observe that the Cargo I brought up, being purchased before the Indians & their fortunes were known, proved very inadequate, as only part of the Goods ordered out of the Cargo from Government arrived from Carleton Island, and much of it very unsuitable and Goods bought here are not only very high but, some unnecessary Articles must be taken, as no Trader will incline to break his Assortment, and either from this, or other Circumstances the wants and requests of the Indians are extended to several articles not formerly in demand among the Six Nations, I would therefore humbly request your Excellency's opinion and direction, whether I should lay in a proper assortment at the lowest rate I can, in Canada, or trust to supplys here, or from Europe, and as it is my real wish to moderate expences (without Injury to the Service) by a gradual reduction, I shall be careful to incur no more than the State of Affairs particularly require.

The demand for Axes, Hoes, Kettles &c (as theirs were mostly lost, or taken in the Indian Country) is far beyond what I have been able to supply (Kettles excepted) and there is no Iron remaining at this Post to make them; could I get up a quantity of them from Canada in time, It would make the Indians very happy and promote the proposed Settlement where many of them intend shortly to remove while those of the Upper Villages of Ohio that were destroyed by the Virginians have agreed to go to Kadarugara; forty Miles from Fort Erie on the South side, and their wants & demands are the same ——— Your Excellency will perceive that the Indian Companies are still very large, and that I want Officers for two of them, I am far from wishing to encrease expenses but I really think they would be useful, or I should not venture to recommend it to consideration — having been a stranger to the modes in use here respecting Accounts, Vouchers &c til my arrival I have detained an Abstract of Colonel Clauses till I know whether it is necessary that Vouchers should accompany them, as his being on the spot may render it unnecessary, and the addition to his pay will be arranged in that Abstract, without loss of time — I likewise wish to be informed whether I should settle with your Excellency about some Warrants received from General Maclean at Halifax for Money advanced to Officers &c of the New York Detachment, part of which I have been reimbursed by them, &c. I find there will be some Credit to give Government for the pay of some persons over drawn, which I shall immediately Account for when my Books &c now on their way arrives. I should not have given your Excellency all this trouble but from a particular desire to Act right and Conformable to your desires. If there are any Errors in form &c in these my first Lists they shall be in future avoided.

I am Sir &c Signed G Johnson

Niagara June 15th 1780

Sir,

I returned Yesterday from my Excursion to the New Settlements made by the Indians on the route to Fort Pitt, and found them very advantageously Situated, and the soil exceeding fertile — The party I had sent some time since from Kadaragas, of Ohio Delawares and some Senecas, had just arrived with Twenty Six Prisoners and Scalps, taken about Legonier and the Juniata River —— Three the Indians detained, the rest they have delivered up, they confirm all the former Accounts respecting the present State of the Rebels —— The Indians appeared highly pleased with my Visit but pointed out their wants very strongly, and indeed they are many but as Lieut Colo Butler goes down immediately, and my time is so short since my Return I take the liberty to refer your Excellency to him for particulars, as he accompanied me on the Occasion and is very sensible of their wants and situation. — I visited Sayengaraghta's Settlement about Eight Miles up a Navigable Stream at the entrance of Lake Erie, on my way to Kadaragaras, at the last mentioned place & Jadaqque, 614 are settled and about 400 at Sayengaraghta's place, The want of Hoes has proved a great obstruction to the proposed Settlement at Chenussio River, I took infinite pains to push it, and many have gone there more would have accompanied them, had I been able to procure a sufficient number of Hoes when Corn arrived. — I have however the pleasure to find that the places of their present Residence appear well calculated as so many out Posts covering this Part of the Country.. Lieut Lottridge whom I sent out with a Party towards the Mohawk River, is just returned, with four Prisoners & two Scalps, and Lieutenant Docksteder who is acquainted with the

Ohio Route and behaved very well there last year, is gone from Kadaragaras with a good party.

As your Excellency's dispatch of the 8th Ultimo is but just come to hand, I must postpone the Estimate you require to another opportunity as I wish to render it as compleat as the nature of it will allow of, sensible of the advantage it may be of if properly attended to.

Kayashota is just returned from Detroit, the particulars of his Embassy shall be the subject of my next Letter.

I am Sir &c (Signed) G. Johnson

A party is just heard from of 60 Rangers & 90 Indians on their way towards the Mohawk River; The marched from hence immediately before my Departure for Kadaragaras.

Niagara July 3rd 1780

No. 9 Sir

Agreeable to your Excellency's commands signified in your last Dispatch I enclose an Estimate of the most material Articles necessary for a years supply of my Department, Framed on a Supposition of the Existence of the same wants and of the necessity of the same attention for that period which has been for some years paid them.

In a former Letter I observed that beside the encrease of their Ordinary expenses and consumption, the desires of the Indians had been extended to many Articles, and some of them expensive ones, which they had not formerly received or expected; This I ascribed to their present importance, and the desire of securing their Affections, as well as to the frequent necessity there was for buying general Assortments, the Merchants not chusing here, to sell particular Articles alledging it would injure their Cargoes, and such new Articles were necessarily given to the Indians, being purchased with the rest; Whether I am right in my Conjectures or not, this much is certain that many of the Indians will no longer wear Tinsel Lace, and are become good judges of Gold and Silver, That they frequently demand & have received Wine, Tea, Coffee, Candles, & many such articles, & that they are particularly nice in the Choice of the finest Black and other Cloth for Blankets and the best Linnen & Cambrick, with other things needless to Enumerate. I have therefore in the Estimate pointed out some things that should be of two or more different Qualities, and indeed it is but reasonable that some Indians of Superior Interest & Utility should have superior marks of favor, so far as it may be done without creating Jealousy — Multiplicity of business, prevents my entering more minutely into the various Articles —

occasionally in demand, but those most essential with their quantity are as nearly ascertained as time or Circumstances will admit, and indeed however judiciously a List may be framed much depends on the choice of Goods, as well as the judgment of the Purchaser, respecting the fancy of the Indians, on which head it is extremely difficult to give adequate Instructions; — I may add that there are many Articles in the Western Indian Assortment, not much in use in the Six Nations and many Colours in Esteem with one Sett of Indians, that are disregarded by another. — The Six Nations are not so fond of gaudy Colours, as of good and Substantial things, but they are passionately fond of Silver Ornaments, and neat Arms.

Where the quantity of any one Article in the Estimate should happen to appear disproportionate to another; it is to be understood, as calculated for the present times, and the superior demand of it, For instance; a large quantity of Blankets of two and an half points is set down, because such are in the first place, most in use, and what are given to all the Grown Indians, Next, because over, and beside an Annual Clothing the War Parties must be again (in General) fitted out when going on Service, and many of them at their Return, as well as Extra Clothing to some of their Families; As to Strouds, tho not given to all as such, a large part of them are necessary for Flaps, Leggings, broad Garters &c. and the frequent wants of the Warriors renders Scarlet for Stockings and plenty of Linnen absolutely necessary. In like manner most of the Articles may be accounted for, and indeed I believe I am as affairs now stand, within bounds in my Calculation, for a twelve Months Supply for above 5000 Souls which tho not together at one time, are less than the number that must be occasionally attended to, without taking the Six Nations to the Southward, or many others of this Confederacy into the Account.

I have only to wish that it may meet with your Excellency's indulgence and approbation, and I shall be careful not to purchase beyond the real wants of the Service.

I am Sir &c. (Signed) G. Johnson

Niagara August 11th 1780

10

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that Lieut. Dochstedder is just arrived after having reduced a Rebel Block House the Commanding Officer of which and others are brought to this place ——— On the 16th Ultimo he had reached Wood

Valley in Bedford County, Pensylvania where the Block House was situated, he immediately invested it, and made several Attacks for above an hour when the Commanding Officer (Captain Phillips) Surrendered, the Garrison consisted of a Captain, Lieutenant, and Thirty four Rangers, but the Lieutenant with Twenty three men had gone on a Scout about two hours before the Attack was made, for which reason, and as the Country was alarmed aswell as on Account of the Treachery which some of the party had experienced from the Rebels the Indians could not be restrained from killing ten of the Rebels.

Lieut. Dockstedder destroyed the Block House, and on his return burnt 7 Houses and as many Granaries and killed some Cattle and Horses ——— I enclose the Letter from the Lieutenant of Bedford County for Captain Phelips's raising his Ranging Company, from which your Excellency will perceive that he was of some estimation there, altho' he affects much simplicity and uses a great deal of Prevarication; he says that they were then raising some men to come to some of our Frontier Posts, but denys any further knowledge of any thing. I have also just received advices from Captain Brant who has already Effected a very good peice of Service, and is advancing against the Rebel Frontier. — On his march from hence he came to the only remaining disaffected Indian Village, Sixteen Miles from Fort Stanwix, he found the Village abandoned but met with some Indians near it who told him that they had retired thro' fear of Partys of Strange Indians, with many other particulars in which it afterwards appeared that they deceived him, for they soon deserted and gave notice to the Garrison of Fort Stanwix, Captain Brant then burnt the Rebel Fort at the Village with other buildings, and marched to the Indian Field below Fort Stanwix where he met the Oneidas in Camp, and called upon them to follow the Example of the rest of their People and return to the British Government; about 100 readily replied it was their desire, and they are now partly come into this place, the small remainder immediately ran towards Fort Stanwix which they reached except two, who were shot, he then drew towards the Fort, on which he fired for a Considerable time, which was returned with Cannon & Small Arms, he then retired towards the Hills where he proposed to remain a few days to deceive the Rebels, and then proceed against the Frontier.

The Fort he Burnt by this party was a great inconvenience to us, and its destruction, with the return of the Indians to their true alliance, will dishearten the Rebels, and lay that route open to our partys. — I have just received your Excellencys Letters which I shall answer by next Opportunity

I am Sir &c (Signed) G. Johnson

Niagara August 14th 1780

Sir

This moment Lieutenant Clement of my Department arrived Express with a Letter from Captain Brant giving me a brief Account of his success on the Mohawk River on the 2d Instant, and referring me for particulars to the Lieutenant whose information I have the Honor to enclose to your Excellency

The Destruction of the Oneida Village and the Rebel Fort there, with his having recently destroyed a rich Settlement with two small Forts and above one hundred Houses, and destroyed and taken so many Cattle, with what may be expected from his having subdivided the Party who are gone against other places, must be sensibly felt by the Rebels, along that communication Captain Brant says in his Letter that he thinks it the finest opportunity to attack Fort Stanwix and wishes I would mention it to your Excellency; whenever such matters are pointed out to me, I acquaint them with the time necessary to prepare, and carry such Military operations into execu and that it depends on the Utility of the Object, and the prospect of keeping possession of it with many other Contingencies - - - I expect news from other partys very soon, in I am at present so circumstanced and Surrounded by Indians that I can only assure your Excellency of the perfect respect with which I am &c Signed) G. Johnson

I inclose also a Letter taken on the road that shews the Rebel mode of supplying their Troops and their wants at the Garrisons.—

Niagara Augt 1780

Sir

I was last Week honored with your Excellency's Lette of the 30th June, 13th & 24th July; as to the first I am extremely happy to find that my Idea respecting the Kadaragaras Settlement and the steps I took in Consequence thereof, have met with your approbation. - I had for some time observed that the Indians were too much inclined to follow a beaten track, and did not pay sufficient attention to the South West which laid a particular claim to I therefore began last Winter to send out the scattered Senecas & Delawares of Upper Ohio, towards that communication, and early in the Spring I encouraged the New Settlements, since which finding that two, or three Families had gone thirty Miles further to Jadaghque Lake which is one of the known Roads to Fort Pitt. I have encouraged several others to follow them, and besides th 600 at Kadaragas about 150 more are now settled at Jadaghque, which may be considered as the advanced Post, from both places, Scouts are constantly kept out. The Soil at the former is as fine as any in America, and the plains extensive, but for reasons before given they cannot be expected to reap great advantage the first Year, more especially as so many are employed on Service, and indeed the Extraordinary number that have gone to War this Year, and the number still out & so very distressing to the Rebels, tends to encrease the charge of this Department in every particular, this large Expence will I trust be not long necessary, and I have the satisfaction to find that all the Parties from hence have been successfull. I shall not fail to represent the ill behaviour of the party that went from Carleton Island in the manner your Excellency wishes, and I make no doubt that it will have a good effect on that party, who according to the best Accounts I have had were induced to return either by the Villany or folly of one man, and indeed it is not uncommon among Indians to be diverted from their purpose by Dreams or Omens — I purpose to act towards the Oneidas in the manner your Excellency wishes, and I expect it will produce Suitable attonement for their past conduct.

I am Sir &c (Signed) G. Johnson

No. 13

Niagara August 24th 1780

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that the Oneidas of the only remaining Settlement, arrived a few days since to the number of One hundred and Thirty two, which with those who came before of their Friends amounts to above five hundred Souls, I received these last in much the same Forme I did the former (as before transmitted) but with some more severity as their Conduct was more blameable in all respects, It produced much the same promises and protestations from them, and they delivered up to me the Rebel Flag, and a Commission which I herewith enclose, being one of the Eleven the Rebels had issued with a view to form the Oneidas into a Corps, A French Officer had also been sent to Fort Stanwix who delivered them a Medal & Speech they are in search of to deliver up. These Oneidas have since presented me with Twenty Young Warriors to go out with a party of One hundred now preparing to march with Captain Nelles of my Department.

I have also the pleasure to inform your Excellency that the Partys who subdivided after Captain Brants success at the Cleysberg (mentioned in mine of the 14th Instant) have all been successfull, that Captain Brant has destroyed 20 Houses in Schohare, and taken and killed 12 persons besides releasing Several Women & Children among the prisoners is Lieutenant Vroman, the Settlement of that name, being that which was destroyed — The other Divisions of that party have been also successfull particularly Captn Davids Party, and the number of killed and taken by them within that time, so far as it has come to my hands is Killed 35 taken 46 Released 40, agreable to the return herewith inclosed, in short that communication is from every Account rendered by the different party's in the most distressed State, and the remaining inhabitants on the Frontiers are drawing in so as to deprive the Rebels of any usefull resources from them — I have at present on Service several Partys that set out within one and the same Week, and I apprehend that falling on the Frontiers in different places at one time will have a good effect.— As my whole Time is given up to the Multifarious dutys and business of my Department, in which I am subject to repeated interruptions, I may not be able to methodize my Correspondence so much as I could wish, for which I trust to your Excellency's indulgence

I am Sir &c Signed / G. Johnson

Niagara Septem^r 18^th 1780

Sir/

Yesterday afternoon I was honored with your Excellency's Secret and Confidential Despatch of the 31^st Ultimo, and you may rely on my best efforts to assist the proposed Expedition with a Detachment of Good Officers and Indians, and as many of the latter as the circumstances of affairs and the shortness of the time will permit, sensible that its Success must depend as much on dispatch as secrecy; I have the pleasure of informing your Excellency that one object of it has been already atchieved; The Oneida Village with the Fort, Church &c, and also the Tuscarora Town near it having been burnt the beginning of last Month, also two Stockaded Forts below Fort Stanwix, and soon after the Partys that were with Captain Brant destroyed Kleysberg &c containing a Church, 100 Houses and as many Barnes besides Mills, and 500 Cattle and Horses, and on the 2^nd Instant Captain Nelles marched with 100 Indians to Conajoharee, who have probably struck a blow ere now, and shall be advised to join Sir John— I shou'd inform your Excellency that I have now 405 Warriors out, in different partys and quarters exclusive of some marched from Kadaragaras &c. That the greater part of the rest are at their planting Grounds, and many sick here, as Fevers and Fluxes have for some time prevailed at this Post, however I hope to send a body of good men, adequate to the Enterprize, and shall contribute all my endeavors to render it effectual.— The destroying the Enemys supplys is an object of much importance, and something farther may probably occur from the State that Country is now reduced to.— I immediately dispatched an Officer with a Belt to the neighbouring Plantations, and stoped two partys who were going another Route to War, that as little time as possible might be spent in collecting an Adequate number of Indians—

Lieu^t Col^o Bolton has communicated to me particulars which your Excellency referred to, and gives all possible countenance and Aid to my Department, which must greatly facilitate the discharge of my Multifarious dutys.— with regard to the Oneidas and others lately disaffected they are no less than 426 of them already come in to me, many of them have been on Service and behaved very well with Captain Brant and other partys, some indeed are still behind that mean to get off as quick as they can, their Families (which are good Pledges) having come in, and the small remainder are I hear gone down the Mohawk River to Fort Hunter, who are probably to much attached to hearken to the rest, who want coercive authority and indeed inclination to urge others too far, but I shall take the first opportunity to mention these matters properly to the rest of the Confederacy, I should have resisted all importunities respecting the Hostages had not Circumstances rendered it necessary in the Opinion of Lieut. Colonel Bolton & Lieut. Colonel Butler as well as in my own at that time, and I have the pleasure to assure you that, the small remains of that people, are in no Capacity or Situation to give much obstruction to partys and that I have the Assurances of the Six Nations that they will consider those who do not immediately come in (if it is in their power) as obstinate Enemies, Captain Brant and Lieutenant Docksteder are much honored by and extremely thankful for your Excellency's approbation, and the former requests me to assure you of his invariable attachment and gratitude. I feel sensible pleasure in communicating your good Opinion of persons of merit, still hoping for some active Occasion that may render me more deserving of the honor you have conferred on myself.

I am Sir &c Signed / G. Johnson

This moment a prisoner arrived taken on Susquehanna who reports that the Militia had been called towards N. York for some time past — I am in much want of Arms & Ammunition and shall be obliged to buy a few for the present Exigence —

Niagara Sepr. 30th. 1780

No 15 Sir

On Wednesday last I received the agreeable intelligence from Lieut. W. Johnson (who was with Montour & Thompson's party) of which the inclosed is a Copy, and on examining the Express, I find that they killed in the Action above 20 Rebels besides those who were killed and taken before; — I hourly expect the party in with their Prisoners &c, as well as to hear of the party of 100 who went against Stone Arabia the 2nd Ultimo under Captain Nelles.. I have also the honor to acquaint your Excellency that Young Bongat is Just arrived with 11 Prisoners taken in Pennsylvania, and that they all agree in saying that the Militia &c were hastily called to the Sea Coast in July, which corresponds with the Time that a Battle is said to have been fought near N. York — Your Excellency's dispatch of August the 12th, by some mistake did not come to my hands till after I had answered your Secret Letter of the 31st wherein you have expressed your approbation of my Conduct towards the Oneidas, and you may be assured I shall pursue such measures as will best conduce to render them useful without reposing any confidence in them till by a series of Actions they shall appear to deserve it — I shall pay the same attention to the important Article of Provisions, as soon and as far as is practicable their Situation as yet prevents it, and their present Ration is so small that it can admit of no farther diminution; when the several Settlements get into a little State of Grain which will be the case I hope the ensuing Year, thro' your Excellency's proposed attention, the Consumption of Provisions will be reduced, till then, many Party's must be in very great want.

Truly sensible of the State of the Upper Country, and of the many difficulties attending its supply, I have directed their attention to those planting

Grounds which are most likely to yield promising Crops, and have in a great measure secured, had I been able to give them a Sufficiency of Seed & Hoes in time, more would have been done, Your Excellencys intentions will enable me to compleat the design in future —— I have great hopes of the Expedition under Sir John Johnson, as so many Circumstances at present concur in his favor, last Season he came to Ontario above a fortnight later, The Indians were uneasy and unsettled in their minds, being just driven in and their Towns destroyed by a superior force, which never fails making a strong impression, and requires some ease and long time to overcome, the Oneidas &c were in peaceable possession of their Fort and Town, which obliged many as the Majority certainly did not wish to fight them however they might condemn their measures, and the Frontier inhabitants were in better Spirits and more capable of resistance. Times are now much changed, the Indians were gradually brought to forget their losses, and they have been so successfully employed for near a Year past that they are in high spirits, the principal Oneidas and others with most part of their people are come in, on my Secret Hint to them in the Winter, the small remainder dispersed, their Town and Fort Burnt, and great part of the Mohawk River laid waste by my partys. The inhabitants tired out, dispirited oppressed with Taxes, and (if our intelligence here is good) their Army defeated, so that much may be effected by a timely movement.

The letter herewith transmitted will inform your Excellency of the State of War partys, and the measures I have now taken to keep up the confusion among the Rebels, in different quarters at the same time which I hope will have the desired effect — I am Sir &c Signed / G. Johnson

Since Writing, I have received the disagreeable news of the Death of the Gallant Montour who died of the Wounds he received in the Action before related, he was a Chief of the greatest Spirit & readiness, and his Death is a loss.

Niagara October 1st 1780

Sir

N.º 16

Agreeable to my letter of the 18th Instant written immediately after the receipt of your Excellency's Secret Orders, I began with all diligence to prepare the Indians in the Neighbourhood with all possible secrecy for a movement, dispatching a Belt to others, least I should at so short a warning be unable to procure an adequate number; But the Weather proving exceedingly bad which must retard the more distant Indians, it was judged expedient to prevent loss of time that the Vessels should proceed with the first fair Wind, with the Troops & what Indians could be forthwith procured, as Sir John Johnson would certainly be at Ontario before they could possibly get there; this being settled with Col.o Bolton I called the Chiefs privately and after explaining as much as was absolutely necessary I called upon them as Warriors and my Friends to shew themselves, by their dispatch in preparing to embark; — They immediately agreed, and altho' the whole number then on the ground did not exceed 300 men, I embarked 250 of them, the next day (Sept.r 24) in the greatest regularity, & in an unexampled

State of Sobriety — Soon after Sayengaraghta & Kayashota, arrived first, and (the former being disguised) the latter informed me that their people would come in two or three days, but the State of the Weather was such that after consulting with Colo. Bolton I sent off about 40 more in Canoes, they promising to use all Dispatch in overtaking the rest, and finding that the Rebels are making another push against the Shawanese &c it seem'd most advisable to employ those who came in so late to make a Diversion in the neighbourhood of Fort Pitt.

The Returns inclosed will shew your Excellency the State of War partys in general to this time, and of those ordered on the particular Service already mentioned, the Total of which being 892, I believe exceeds what has been on Service of this Confederacy on any former occasion.

The Attention recommended in your Excellency's Letter to Colo. Bolton, to the Affairs on Ohio, is certainly become highly necessary and my late letters from Mr. McKee give me reason to believe that a good body of Indians may strike a successfull blow about Fort Pitt at this time, as the Rebels have drawn many people from that quarter, to invade the Indian Country &c, as it will likewise make a Diversion, in favor of the Indians invaded, and shew we are not unmindfull of their Situation, and as Sayengaraghta has declared his resolution to go there in person with Kayashota, the party will be strong and united, but there is another material point to be answered by it — The Rebels from private intelligence I have lately received, have been secretly tampering with the Delawares in their Interest to draw the Ohio Delawares (settled now among the Senecas at Kadaragaras & Jadaghque) down towards the Rebel Frontier by endeavoring to create Jealousys between them & the Senecas, and by spreading repeated Alarms of their dangerous Situation, so that a respectable party by that Route under Chiefs of such Influence, will give great encouragement to the friendly Delawares at this Critical Time, and will support my Endeavors, and measures for securing their fidelity.

The party is at present about 140, and when all that are intended have joyned, they will make 200, I have sent a good Officer with them, and pointed out every thing in my power for rendering them usefull — at the same time I have sent 70 Senecas under Kayentwaghe, a Chief of much merit & Influence to cross the Country by a direct Rout which will give him a chance of overtaking Sir John Johnson, or of striking a blow somewhere favorable to the object of his Expedition, and have directed another party of 40 towards the Katskill, they having promised me to get below the rest in sufficient time from their particular knowledge of that Country — Those for the Ohio expedition are partly on the ground still, I expect the rear will be marched off tomorrow, as the hurry occasioned by so many movements at this time and the frequent interruptions I meet with, are scarce to be described, tho it may in some measure account for any inaccuracies in my Letter, or the enclosures herewith transmitted. I shall think myself very happy if my Transactions on the foregoing occasions are honored with your Excellency's approbation. I am Sir &c (Signed) G. Johnson sailed for Carleton Island; 2[illegible]0 were to have gone, but several staid behind as the Veſsels were detained for some Days by bad Weather.

Friday Novr. 26th. —

A Meeting was held to Day at Colo. Johnsons House,

Present as follows,

Colo. Johnson Supt.	Capt. Brant
Lt. Col. Bolton	Richd. Wilkinson Adjutant
John Dease, Depy. Agent	Richd. Cartwright Secy
	Nichs. Stevens Interpreter

The Indians being aſsembled Colo. Johnson opened the Meeting by telling them he had called them together to give an Answer to what had been proposed at the last Meeting and proceeded to acquaint them, that, after due Deliberation, he had agreed with them in Opinion about the Propriety of sending a Meſsage to the Rebels, that might tend to procure the Releasement of their Flesh & Blood, of the Cayouga Nation, from among them, since the Letter, addreſsed by Schuyler, to the Officer commanding the Indians afforded so fair an Opportunity. He said that, from what they had told him of the Perfidy of the Rebels, in not

releasing

77 releasing any Persons in Return for the many they had se
free, he thought they ought to send a spirited Messag
and insist upon the Releasement of the Cayouga Woma
& her 2 Sons as a necessary Preliminary to any Negotiati
on the Score of Prisoners, & that this would be highly pro
per, as from the Accounts he had heard from them & others
of the past Transactions of the Rebels, no Confidence coul
be placed in them till they had first done this: that if
they still wished that he should write, he would accompany
their Message with a Letter to Schuyler, wherein he shoul
speak very plainly on that Subject. He said as he
knew that this Matter had been a good Deal attended
to by them, he expected their Answer immediately & the
Determinations in what manner this Business should be [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~, & added that, ~~at~~ Present,
he had only further to observe to them, that he suppos
when this Business was arranged, they would conside
the Propriety of sending large Parties of their Warriors
to hunt in Order to lessen the Consumption of Provisi
ons for the Reasons he had already so often mentione which was of very material Consideration,
to them, & that this Step was the more necessary as so fe
had accepted of the Invitation to go down the Country.

They expressed much Satisfaction at what Col.ᵒ Johnson had said, & promised to make a Reply as soon as they had consulted about it among themselves, which they were left to do after giving them a little Liquor.

In about an Hour after they acquainted Col.ᵒ Johnson they were ready to give their Answer; who being seated, they after their usual Manner of Repetition, again thanked him for what he had spoken: said it was what they themselves would have proposed: that they would insist upon the Releasement of the Cayougas, & would send a large Party as far as Icaias, from whence they intended to detach a Person, (whose neuteral Conduct rendered him very fit for a Business of that kind) to the Rebels, and that when they had pitched upon the People who were to go they would let him know.

They said also they intended to demand a Catagorical Answer from the Oneydas whether they, as was said, were determined to strike the Senecas & other Friends of the King, & would give them to understand, that, as they were all united in one Common Cause, if they struck one they struck the Whole, & would, in

that

79.

that Case, soon experience their Resentment to thei cost.

With Respect to the saving Provisions, they said there was Nothing but this Affair now in agitation, tha had prevented many of them from going a Hunting: but that most of their People would doubtless remain here who must eat.

Col.^o Johnson said it was not intended to ~~he did not mean to drive~~ send the away. totally ~~that~~ there was Provisions enough here for a considerable Number, but not for ~~them while~~ the above half be now on the Ground. which was the reason they had been so often urged on that Subject.

Saturday 27th -- This Morning Sagaais, a Cayouga Chie waited upon Col.^o Johnson with his Party of 14 Warrior & enumerated the Transactions that had passed during h Absence, spoke very modestly of himself, & said that he always wished his Actions should exceed his Words, & had rather Col.^o Johnson should hear of his Conduct from others than from himself. that however he could not hel saying that his Party had been very active; that he ha remembred the Good Advice Col.^o Johnson gave him in 1774 when he was appointed Chief & had endeavour to

79.

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With Respect to the saving Provisions, they said there was Nothing but this Affair now in agitation, that had prevented many of them from going a Hunting: but that most of their People would doubtless remain here who must eat.

Colo. Johnson said it was not intended to ~~he did not mean to~~ send ~~drive~~ them totally away; that there was Provisions enough here for a considerable Number, but not for ~~the Number~~ above half the now on the Ground. which was the reason they had been so often urged on that subject.

Saturday 27th -- This Morning Sagarais, a Cayouga Chief waited upon Colo. Johnson with his Party of 16 Warriors enumerated the Transactions that had passed during the Absence, spoke very modestly of himself, & said that he always wished his Actions should exceed his Words, & had rather Colo. Johnson should hear of his Conduct from others than from himself. that however he could not help saying that his Party had been very active; that he had remembred the good Advice Colo. Johnson gave him in 1774 when he was appointed Chief & had endeavoured to follow it: hoped he had shewn himself worthy of succeeding the Person he did, and wished for a further Opportunity to distinguish himself: he produced the Testimonial he had received on being appointed a Chief and desird to have it renewed.

Col^o. Johnson told him he had been particularly informed of his Conduct which gave him ~~the highest~~ great Satisfaction, as did also that of his Party; & said he made no Doubt but they would continue to exert themselves in the Service of the King their Father, & promised to renew his Testimonial. — He then dismissed them with some Paint & a little Liquor.

Soon after some other Indians came in, & spoke upon a black Belt on the ~~Score~~ Subject of Provisions, which they said fell short to their Women & Children. ~~that this was very hard; much more so than if it fell upon the Men, who were better able to bear it~~.

Col^o. Johnson replied that he had often told them ~~that~~ they would be obliged to put up with Inconvenie on Account of Provisions if they did not divide, & a great many of them go down the Country, & repeated again how impossible it was to bring over a sufficient Quantity for the Whole.

They then asked for some Rum to conjure with, that they might try some Charm to relieve their People, many of whom were sick & dying in the Camp.

Col.o Johnson said they ~~would~~ should be ~~have them~~ gratified in this, tho.o Rum was very scarce~~, & would very soon fall short~~.

Sunday 20th – This Morning Scandenoy alias the Coffee-House Man called upon Col.o Johnson. He had gone from Oswego in Order to join the Party that were to have come thither by Land, but missing of them he went down the Country in Order to pick up some Intelligence. Upon coming to some of the Onandagoes, near where their Village had stood, they told him, that the Rebels had Parties out constantly about that Place, & would certainly apprehend him, if he did not conceal himself; which he did in a Swamp that lay contiguous. He said

he

The Committee beg leave further to report that as the collections of the said M^r^ Du Simitière under the article of history are particularly ample, and he has paid great attention to the study thereof, and as some honorary distinction, by which he may become more publicly known will much conduce to his better success in the aforementioned work;

Negatived

Resolved, That the s^d^ Pierre Eugene du Simitière be appointed Historiographer to the Congress of the United States.[1]

The delegates of Pensylvania laid before Congress an extract from the proceedings of the general assembly of Pensylvania, relative to Captain Lee's and Captain Porter's companies in Colonel Lamb's regiment of artillery:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of War.

Congress proceeded to the election of commissioners for the board of admiralty, and the ballots being taken,

Thomas Waring, Esq. and William Whipple, Esq. were elected.[2]

Adjourned to 10 oClock to Morrow.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1779

A memorial, dated 26, from the hon^ble^ ~~Chev^r^ de la Luzerne,~~ the Minister Plenipotentiary of France, was read, enclosing a copy of letter, of 25, from Don Juan de Miralles:

Ordered, That the same be referred to the committee on the letter, of 24th, from Don Juan de Mirailles.

A memorial of Robert Martin was read:

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[1] This report, in the writing of William Churchill Houston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, II, folio 175. It is endorsed: "Received, November 26, 1779. December 27, To be considered Friday, December 31."

[2] "The third Commissioner is not yet elected, but will probably be a Gentleman from some one of the more central States, it being tho't beneficial to the whole to take the Commissioners from different parts of the United States."—*Huntington to Waring,* November 27, 1779. Waring was from South Carolina, and Whipple from New Hampshire.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of Treasury to take order thereon.

A petition of Coenradt Flaake and Albartus Van Loon was read:[1]

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of Treasury.

A letter, of 23, from S. Deane, was read.

The committee on Major General Sullivan's letter, of 9th, and,

The committee on the report of the Treasury, of the 5th instant, brought in their reports:

Your Committee to whom was referred the report of the Treasury of the 5 November, 1779, beg leave to submit the following resolutions:

That warrants in the form herein after mentioned be drawn on the Treasurers of the several States, payable in four months from the date, for sums not exceeding 20,000 Doll^{s} nor less than 500 Dl^{s}.

That those in whose favor the same are drawn be credited on the same a discount of two per cent, being the interest of the sums specified in the same for the said term.

That such sums be paid to the said persons or their assigns on the day of payment by the respective Treasurers or their successors in office, or, in Default thereof as soon as may be thereafter, together with Interest from that Day at the rate of six per cent.

That the said Treasurers do accept such bills whensoever they shall be presented to them; and that the sums paid on such warrants be charged to the United States on the day of payment, and afterwards liquidated in the accounts of the several States according to the Resolutions of the 6 and 7th of October last.

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[1] Luzerne's memorial and Miralles's letter are printed in the *Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution* (Wharton), III, 414, 415. The memorial of Martin is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 41, VI, folio 149; the Flaake petition, dated the 12th, is in No. 42, III, folio 37.

Form of the warrants.

To the Treasurer of the State of

No.

SIR

Pay to or his assigns Dollars in four months from the Date hereof.

By order of Congress the Day of 1779.

A B, *Presd*t.[1]

The reports delivered in being read,

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter of the 17th October last, from Major-General Schuyler; Whereupon Congress agreed to the following answer to the said letter:

SIR:

Notwithstanding the many injuries committed by the savages, Congress are disposed to peace; the conditions on which they insist are,

First, that it shall be supplicated on the part of the enemy; secondly, that they shall surrender all the Americans in their hands; thirdly, that they shall expel all British agents and emissaries; fourthly, that they shall covenant to deliver up such as shall hereafter go among them; fifthly, that they shall covenant not to take up the hatchet again under penalty of being driven from their country; and sixthly, that they shall give hostages for their strict adherence to the promises to be by them made.

Congress further wish that they make considerable Offers of Territory, which may stand recorded against them, and serve as the most pointed marks of their contrition; but they mean that the Commissioner should decline an acceptance of the Offer to convince them of the superior Generosity of America, compared with their Experience of others. At the same time, if any of the Inhabitants have just Claims for Damages done, Congress do not wish to preclude them; on the contrary, it is their Desire that it should be expressly left open in the Treaty, so as to be afterward settled in a fair and equitable Manner by Commissioners from the Whites and Indians.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Gouverneur Morris, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 26, folio 93. It is endorsed: "November 29. Consideration postponed. Referred to committee of whole."

To which it was moved by Mr. [James] Forbes, seconded by Mr. [William Churchill] Houston, to add "and that Congress are willing to accept of any cession of territory which the said Indians may be inclined to make to the United States, reserving to any particular State their right of a prior claim to the territory aforesaid, or any part thereof."

An amendment was moved by Mr. [Robert R.] Livingston, seconded by Mr. [Philip] Schuyler, to add, "which cession shall be for the benefit of such State as may have a prior right."

On which the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [James] Forbes,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Peabody,	no	no
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Holten,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Marchant,	no	no
Connecticut,		
Mr. Huntington,	no	no
Sherman,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Schuyler,	ay	ay
Livingston,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Fell,	no	no
Houston,	no	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Searle,	no	no
Muhlenberg,	no	
M‘Lene,	no	
Shippen,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. Forbes,	no	no
Plater,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Griffin,	ay	*
North Carolina,		
Mr. Harnett,	ay	ay
Sharpe,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Mathews,	no	no

So it passed in the negative.

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[1] This letter, in the writing of Gouverneur Morris, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, V, folio 311.

The previous question was then moved by Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, and seconded by Mr. [William] Sharpe.

On which the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [James] Forbes,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Peabody,	ay	ay
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Lovell,	ay	
Holten,	ay	
Partridge,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Marchant,	no	no
Connecticut,		
Mr. Huntington,	ay	ay
Sherman,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Schuyler,	ay	ay
Livingston,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Fell,	no	no
Houston,	no	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Searle,	ay	ay
Muhlenberg,	ay	
M'Lene,	ay	
Shippen,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Plater,	no	no
Forbes,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Griffin,	ay	*
North Carolina,		
Mr. Harnett,	ay	ay
Sharpe,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Mathews,	ay	ay

So it passed in the affirmative, and the main question was set aside.

A motion was then made by Mr. [Henry] Marchant, seconded by Mr. [James] Forbes, "That it be one condition of the peace, that no land be sold or ceded by any of the said Indians, either as individuals or as a nation, unless to the United States of America or by the consent of Congress."

On which the previous question was moved by Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, seconded by Mr. [William] Sharpe, and the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Henry] Marchant,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Peabody,	no	no
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Lovell,	ay	
Holten,	ay	
Partridge,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Marchant,	no	no
Connecticut,		
Mr. Huntington,	ay	ay
Sherman,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Schuyler,	ay	ay
Livingston,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Fell,	ay	ay
Houston,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Searle,	ay	ay
Muhlenberg,	ay	
M'Lene,	ay	
Shippen,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Plater,	no	no
Forbes,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Griffin,	ay	*
North Carolina,		
Mr. Harnett,	ay	ay
Sharpe,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Mathews,	ay	ay

So it was resolved in the affirmative, and the main question was set aside.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on General Washington's letter, of 20; and some time being spent thereon,

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Resolved, That two members be added to the committee on the memorial of the general officers in the room of Mr. [Jesse] Root and Mr. [Gouverneur] Morris.

The members chosen, Mr. [Roger] Sherman and Mr. [Cyrus] Griffin.

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock on Monday.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1779

The delegates of New Jersey laid before Congress the credentials of their appointment for the year ensuing, which were read, as follows:

Niagara Nov. 29th 1779

Sir

I have this day drawn a bill on your Excellency for £1756..10..5¼ expences incurred at this Post, on account of transporting Provisions &c over the Landing, the Account is enclosed and Copies of the Vouchers sent to Mr. Dunn — Mr. Stedman informs me that Captain Brehm examined these papers before he left Niagara —

I have received your Excellency's Letter of the 16th of October with the Orders for the better Regulation of the Naval Department, Copies of which I have enclosed to Major De Peyster and at the same time desired him to acquaint Captain Grant, that it was expected they would be strictly observed. Captain Andrews has also received Copies of all these Orders from Captain Schank — the Seamen on this Lake receive only the Rations as issued in Canada, and I hope to hear soon that the same will take place on the other Lakes — when Captain Andrews returns I shall make an Enquiry if any promises were made to the Seamen on Lake Ontario, that they should be paid at the rate of thirteen Months in the year; as far as I can learn (I believe) such an offer was made by Lt. Governor Hamilton, in order to encourage them to continue in the Service. I expect Captain Andrews here every day, as soon as he arrives I shall give him orders to go down with the

Haldimand and ~~Mohawk~~ Caldwell to winter at Carleton Island, this will be the second Trip they Vessels have made since the Troops went to Oswego, and I am in hopes the Mohawk will make a third, at any rate its necessary she should try as the Indian presents are much wanted here — I have now only to observe that the Naval Officers are much indebted to your Excellency for the Regulations you have made in their favour, and there is no doubt but they will pay the Strictest attention to all Orders & Regulations made by the Commander in Chief —

In my former Letter I informed you Sir of every thing I knew concerning the Rangers Barracks, and my reasons for not drawing the bill for the amount of the Account, therefore whatever Memorandums Captain Brehm has received, I am certain Captain Mathews can answer, (who then acted as Engineer) for my part I was ill at that time, and confined to my room for four Months which I am much afraid will be the case this winter; being a good deal indisposed at present —

I have acquainted Major Butler that whenever an Exchange of Prisoners shall take place, you will do your utmost to serve his Family. I have also declared the Rangers

Siangairakta and Joseph, who are extremely sensible of the many favours they have received. By this Opportunity I send down a Colonel Campbell, who was taken Prisoner by Girtie and a Party of the Shawanese, some papers of his I have enclosed—

I am with Great Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P.S.

We have still three Thousand Indians here, but as soon as the Cloathing arrives, many have promised to return to their Villages & others to go hunt—

His Excellency General Haldimand.

From 1779

Lieut. Col: Bolton. inclosing
an acct. of Stedman with a
draft for the amount
of the 29. Nov. Recd. 29. Decr.

Isle aux Noix Novem.r the 30th
1779 30

Sir

I have the Honour to acquaint your Excellency that Lieut. Houghton with the Scout returned last night, he reported that they had passed up the Lake as far as Split Rock, by very short days owing to the badness of the weather & quantity of ice which they found in the Bay — on their arrival at the above place the Indians began to express great uneasiness at their situation the season apparently setting in with severity would infallibly occasion the loss of the Batteau's, the great difficulty of a March along the mountains between Lake George & the North River, there being at least between two & three feet snow on them by that time, so that their retreat, in case of any misfortune

The Chiefs [illegible]

began to express great uneasiness at their situation the season apparently setting in with severity would infallibly occasion the loss of the Batteaus; the great difficulty of a March along the Mountains between Lake George & the North River, there being at least between two & three feet snow on them by that time, so that their retreat, in case of any misfortune must become very precarious. The Chiefs called a Council, and declared it as their opinion, it would be for the good of the service, considering the welfare of the Party, to alter their Plan, and that the best thing they could do, keeping in view the distressing the enemy, would be to strike on the Post at Rutland & the Country round, beginning six miles above the Block House, & sweeping all the habitations downwards — by which means they could not fail of destroying a considerable quantity of Forage. Lieut. Houghton thought it his duty to insist on their persevering in the first Plan, till he saw they were not to be forced, &

gave

from necessity acquiesced — They said nothing but the season could have altered them, & they hoped they would not be accused of having acted from a force. They hid their Boats in a Bay a little to the North of Otter Creek & set off — they edged up towards the Green mountains, keeping clear of the settlements, on their arrival in the upper part of the Town Ship of Shrewsbury they came upon a beaten path, which it was judged prudent to examine, accordingly two scouts of Indns and a white man each, were sent out, and the day being near a close the main body encamped.

One of the scouts returned very soon, had seen nothing; the other about an hour after dark, brought in four Pris.rs & reported that they took them at a House five miles off. The Pris.rs said they had left one Woman in the house & that four of their friends were out hunting but were to return that night, and being Continental Soldiers, lest those four men should alarm the country it was judged prudent to try & take them, for which purpose, two scouts of fifteen Indians & a white man each, were detach'd five miles off. The Ind^{s} said they had left an old Woman in the house & that four of their friends were out hunting but were to return that night, and being Continental Soldiers, had those four men should alarm the Country it was judged prudent to try & take them, for which purpose, two parties of fifteen Indians & a white man each, were detach'd one with orders to go to the House & remain there till morning, the other to make a circle round the way they were expected to be most likely of falling in with the Hunters. In the mean time the four men had got home, and the woman inform'd them of the ten Ind^{s} having carried off their friends; they agreed that should the Ind^{s} return, they were able to defend the house. They had made down a fire & were standing at the door when the scout arrived. they challenged three times when the Chief answer'd *French*. on which the Rebels fired & wounded one Ind^{n} badly in the Leg the Ind^{s} fired two shots killed two of the men, & wounded a third who with the fourth escaped, owing to the darkness of the Night. The main Body in camp hearing the firing marched with all expedition to support their Scout; on their way met two young lads who were going with an account of the affair—

They were joined by the other Scout, the whole went to, & remained at, the House till morning as soon as they had contrived a machine for carrying the wounded man the whole marched off. — rising a hill which over look'd the House, at the dist= of about two hundred yards they came on the tracks of between thirty & forty men some on foot others on horseback, who doubtless had come to attack them but seeing the Party so strong, were gone off to alarm the Country — after a short pursuit a halt was called, what was best to be done? the Country alarmed, & of course the Block House which was then only twelve Miles distant, it was resolved to strike down on the Coast & sweep all down before them. which was accordingly done— they took six more Pris.rs one of whom escaped the remaining five with the four first brought

pursuit a halt was called, what was best to be
done & the Country alarmed, & of course the Block house
which was then only twelve Miles distant. it was
resolved to strike down on the Creek & sweep all
down before them which was accordingly done.
they took six more Pris:rs one of whom wounded
the remaining five with the four first brought
in & the scalps of the two who were killed are the
whole of their trophies. they burnt about twenty
dwelling houses, one of them Block house & a place
of some Stores in it with a large quantity of
Indian Corn. they killed a considerable Num:r of
Cows, Horses, Sheep &c:a, & destroyed an immense
quantity of Forage. nothing particular happ'd
on their retreat. From the wounded Indian I could
learn as the Interpretation has been for some days
making a wretched language.

This is in as few words as possible the
substance of Lt Houghton's Report. The eight
Royalists

Royalists which I had the Honour of mentioning in my last, arrived yesterday; I sent them off for Montreal this Morning to receive instruc=
=tions from Brig^{r} Gen^{l} Maclean, as I did not know how to dispose of them.—

L^{t} Houghton did not find any Letters in the Houses, nor do the Ind^{ns} seem to know the least of what is going on to the South^{d} but confirm the Accounts of the Militia being called down to the Highlands.—

I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect

Your Excellency's most Obedient
and most humble servant
Ch^{r} Carleton

respect

Your Excellency's most Obedient
and most Humble Servant
Chr. Carleton

From 1779
Major Carleton
Lt
30th Novr. Recd 9th Decr

from 1779
Major De Peyster, of
the 20th. Nov: Recd. 29th.
Decr.

331

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Mingoes. Hurons. Delawares and Shawanese — Sandusky Decem^{r}. 4th. 1779 —

Children,

In consequence of the Request made by your several Chiefs now present to your Father the Commanding Officer of Detroit. I am come to deliver you his Sentiments and distribute to your several Nations the supplies he has been pleased to spare you, which I hope will be satisfactory to you and amply furnish you with neceſsaries during the Winter. You will receive it as a recompence for your long & faithful attachment to your Great Father the King of England, who you may depend, will never forget or forsake his Indian Children — I must not neglect to return you thanks at this great meeting for the Fresh and dried Meat delivered to me, it is a convincing proof of the good use you have made of the Hatchet put into your hands by your Father at Detroit, who desires you to continue strong in this good work and not let the rust gather upon it — He cannot sufficiently expreſs his Disappointment at not being able to comply in full with your request at this Time — The Army intended for your support was stop'd at Niagara, being well aſsured that the whole force of the Enemy was drawn that way against your Elder Bretheren the Six Nations, by whose aſsistance they have been able to drive The Big Knife out of their Country. And you may depend my Children that as soon as the Lakes are open, your Father expects a Reinforcement, therefore be strong till that time — for you may be certain then of Help.

Children,

Do not be deceived or frighten'd by the vain threats or menaces of the French and Virginians — they tell you that the Kings of France and Spain are fighting against us, but look upon this as one of the many lies you hear from them, their only Aim in so many falsehoods is to cheat you out of your Country — You have penetration enough yourselves to see the Truth of this, and their own Papers which have fallen into your Hands, is a convincing Testimony of it — And you know, my Friends, if this should be the case, the Calamities that must ensue to your Women and Children — These are causes sufficient to animate You, and prevent your hatchet from falling to the Ground. Unanimity and a strict adherence to one interest by your several Nations will always ensure you success — therefore I must in the strongest manner recommend it to you, and that You follow in this the example of the six Nations, who by their steady Union, have been able to withstand all the great attempts of the Enemy against them, listen also to them whilst you do this. Your Great Father the King of England will support and send you supplies, for he & they are strong in one Interest, and in the end I am convinced you will find this to yours likewise. Children, I can with truth assure you that your Fathers the English have had great success against the Rebels, and that your Great Father the King of England has made two very powerful alliances, The Empress of Russia and the King of Prussia, either of them able to beat the French & Spaniards together; But they tell you false when they say we are at War with them — No War is as yet declared between us, but it is true the French have been medling, and have paid dear for it, by losing many of their great Ships of War, as they have been severely beat — they are sorry for what they have done, and, We are informed, wish to be Quiet.

Children, I have one more to desire you to be unanimous in your Councils, make yourselves as one Man, & remember you have a Father at Detroit, who has made himself as one with you in the general Confederacy — He loves you and will support you as far as is in his Power — His Voice you now hear thro' me — If you have any thing to say to him, I will make a faithful Report to him, as well as every Transaction that paſses between your several Nations. — A bunch of black Wampum

Chillicothyky Decr. 26th 1779 — A Speech delivered by the Chiefs of this Village to Lieutenant Caldwell —

Father,

We rejoice to see you at our Village. your appearance amongst us, gives our young Warriors fresh Courage — You must see and will be a Judge of our near Situation to the Enemy, against whom our small Tribes have withstood all attempts, and have ever since our Fathers words with the six Nations reached us, kept our Quarter clear, tho' at the expence of our principal Warrior, when they surprized us last Summer — this circumstance indeed has made us poor, and you hear us speak like Children who have lost their Chief. Notwithstanding the small Specimens of succeſs which we send our Father, will convince him that we stand our ground, and we aſsure him, we are determined to do so with his aſsistance, but without it impoſsible. — the Enemy is growing strong in our Neighborhood — Father, we have never troubled you with complaints like other Tribes of not performing their promises, nor magnifyed our Danger, tho' we have been always the Frontier —. Now we are obliged to apply to you for support, our fears are great. The Enemy have erected many Forts, and one within three days travel of us, And our Scouts have discovered great Numbers coming out this Winter, no doubt to prepare to strike us in Spring: therefore We earnestly request you to be Expeditious in affording your aſsistance before it is in their power to come to us — This will enable us to annoy and harraſs them which will throw them into confusion & diſtreſs, and prevent them from accomplishing the Establishment they seem determined to force in our Country — Our Warriors will Stand ready to go against the Enemy as soon as you Join us — which We once more beg you will do as early as the Season will permit you —

Children of Chillicothyky —

After delivering to the Chiefs of the several Nations of your confederacy aſsembled at Sandusky, the words of your Father from Detroit, with the supplies he had sent You — I found it would be for the good of the service as well as Satisfactory to You, that I should visit your several Villages before my Return — And I am now happy to find by your Speech to me that your Young Men have received any encouragement by my appearance amongst you. the reasonable request you have made to your Father, for support, is manifest: and I shall make a faithful representation of it to him, as well as every other matter which concerns Your Interest — I the mean time, I can aſsure you in his Name of Aſsistance, as soon as Troops arrive at Detroit for this purpose. Your long and faithful attachment to his Interest, I am certain he is convinced merits every Indulgence in his Power, and the spring will bring you from him the aſsistance You so much desire — I sincerely condole with you for the loſs of your Principal Warrior: but hope that Unanimity among those that remain will amply supply your loſs. —

A Meeting at Pickowee Jany. 10th. 1780

Father,

You are come to visit your Children, and We are glad to see you – the Speeches that have been delivered to you by our younger Brethren of Chillikothiky are agreeable to us, and the Sentiments of our whole confederacy, We therefore confirm their Words as the earnest desire of all your Children and have only to add, you may inform your Father at Detroit, that we have assurances from our Younger Brethren the Wabash confederacy, that they will act in conjunction with us this ensuing Summer, therefore we desire him to be strong and supply his Children with a sufficient Quantity of Arms & Accoutrements, for without these We are able to do nothing – And we hope for the future he will be more liberal in these Articles –

A String of Wampum

Children,

I am glad to hear your Words, and return you thanks for the pleasure you express in seeing me. I shall not fail to make your Father acquainted with the Unanimity of his Children, And I hope the Wabash confederacy will act with such Vigor with you, as to enable you to execute something to our mutual advantage against the Enemy – And as to supplies of Arms & Ammunition, it is his wish that you should not want these Articles, I shall therefore represent to him in the fullest manner your desire on this Head. –

Jany. 12th. 1780 – Received a message in the Name of Monsr. Bauban, informing the Shawanese that he was transacting some Business in the Name of their Father at Detroit with the Wabash Confederacy & Western Nations, and that he would visit them, to inform them with the event of his Negociations – hoping at the same time, to be able to explain to them the Sentiments of those Nations, who would act with them heartily in the Spring –

Janry 13th – Received another Message to attend a Council to be held at the upper Shawanese Village, with a Party of Cherokees, who had brought a Rebel Hatchet from Fort Pitt, and said to be carried on to the Lower Village by one o the above Party: In consequence of which, I proceeded with some Chiefs to make some enquiry after it, but upon examining the Cherokees, found it to be one they had received, in the Name of their Father at Detroit from the Hurons – And that the Rebel Hatchet must be in the Hands of those Cherokees at Wakitami

Transactions of a Meeting held at Wakitamyky
Janry 17th – 1780 –

Present Lieut. Caldwell
Capt. McKee
Mr. Elliot
Simon Girty Mingoe }
George Girty Delaware } Interpreters –
James Girty Shawanese }

Indians – Six Nations, Hurons, Delawares, Shawanese Miamis, Cherokees of Kinnygain's Party, & Cherokees of Chota.

The Council was opened by the following address from Buck Angeila principal Warrior of the Delawares, to the Raven Chief of Chota, in consequence of a Rebel Hatchet bei in his possession –

Grand Children of Chota,

You see here before you at th Council Fire, all the Chiefs & Warriors of the several Nation inhabiting this Country, and in their presence I open you hand gently, and take out of it a Hatchet delivered to you by a few drunken People of my Nation, in conjunction w the Big Knife our Enemy — In delivering it up, I hope you will throw up every bad impreſsion you have received from them, to the Satisfaction and desire of all Nations present.

In Answer to the above Speech; The Raven Chief arose with the Rebel Hatchet in his hand and spoke as follows — Elder Bretheren of all the different Nations present, I set out from my Village of Chota in consequence of a Meſsage I received from our Father at Detroit, the Hurons, and Delawares at Kochaking. On my Journey I was met by some Hurons & Delawares, who took me by the hand and led me to Fort Pitt, there I received this Tomyhawk and I now hold it in my hand — I did not refuse it as it was given to me by You my Grandfathers the Delawares. I, however did not receive it from my heart, or with any intention to make use of it against our English Father or any of you my Elder Bretheren — I therefore at your request Grandfathers, and all my Bretheren present, I here drop it at your Council fire — leaving it to you to do as you think proper with it — He then droped a large black Belt of Eleven Rows with the figure of a Hatchet in it —

The Raven Chief then spoke as follows, holding another Belt in his hand — Elder Bretheren — After what had paſsed at Fort Pitt, I proceeded from thence to my Brothers the Hurons, who led me to our Fathers Council fire at Detroit. Upon my first appearance at my Fathers Gate, he saw me and turned his back upon me, I was however conducted to his Council Fire — where I saw my Father sitting with a Number of You my Elder Bretheren — He sat a little time, and left me, at the same time giving me behind his Back this Rusty Hatchet I now hold in my Hand — On my Departure from thence, he gave me a push which had nearly occasioned my falling into the Fire, I escaped with only scorching one of my Hands till I arrived at this Council Fire — For the truth of what I have now said I appeal to my Father present — who was Witneſs to the Treatment

I

received, and who is sensible this rusty Hatchet will do no Execution.

The Raven Chief having concluded his Speech - Buckangeilis the Delaware Chief took up the Rebel Hatchet, the Raven had dropped and spoke as follows upon it — Father, Uncles the six Nations, and all my Grand Children here present — You now see the Tomyhawk that was struck into our Heads last Summer - None of you can say, you were ignorant of the manner it was given up — It gives you all great pleasure, we now have it in our Possession, And I now in Presence of you all deliver it up to our Uncles the Six Nations and Grand Children the Shawanese, to determine what is best to be done with it —

Delivered the Rebel Hatchet to the Six Nations -

A Report prevailing that the Raven Chief having some Rebel Papers in his possession, a private message was sent to him, by the Mingoes, in the Name of all the Nations present, requesting he would deliver them up, which was accordingly done after some hesitation —

The Meeting adjourned to Jany. 18th Present as before —

The Six Nations requested in the Name of the whole Confederacy that the Papers brought by the Raven Chief, should be explained, which was accordingly done, and contained as follows. ——

To all whom these presents may concern, the Bearer hereof the Raven of Chota and Chief Warrior of all the overhill Cherokee Indians, informs me he has business in the Delaware Nation and wants a pass for that purpose — I hereby desire, that he may pass and repass unmolested — I likewise beg that all Friends to America may shew him respect, as he has distinguished himself in favour of America; ever since the treaty, and thro his influence the frontiers of Virginia & North Carolina on Holston River, Watago and Nochucky have been in peace for two Years past. Given under my Hand & Seal this 11th day of May 1779 —

(Signed) Jos. Martin Agt. of Virga. (Seal)

Fort Patrick Henry in the State of Virginia, Whereas the Bearer hereof the Raven Chief of Chota of the Cherokee Nation with his Party of 14 men and one Woman, hath a desire to visit the Delawares, he being sent for by a meſsage from Capt. White Eyes of that Nation, who hath always taken an active & friendly part with the united States, and the said Cherokee Chief having been uniformly stedfast in his friendship ever since the Treaty at this Place in the year 1777 - He is therefore recommended to the friendly Offices of all Friends to America, and it is requested that he may paſs and repaſs unmolested. He behaving Himself as becometh his Character — 315

Given under my Hand this 22.d day of May 1779
Washington County
(Signed) Evan Shelby Colonel
Jos. Martin Agt. V. State

The Contents being known and finding it could be of no detriment to us — The Six Nations returned them to the Raven Chief, informing him at the same time, they not imagine his Heart now corresponded with the Contents of the Papers — They therefore returned them to him again, that he might the easier deceive the Virginians on his Journey through their Settlements.

The Weed Chief of the Six Nations, then addreſsed all present, saying, that he had received from his Nephews the Delawares, the Rebel Hatchet which they had taken out of the Hands of the Cherokees of Chota — And that now he desired the same Cherokees to observe that he was determined to hold it in his Hands, and as soon as his Warriors could be aſsembled, would turn its Edge upon those, who had directed it towards him; That all those Nations of his own Colour, with his Father who were strongly united in one cause, would aſsist him in executing his design, that in confirmation of his resolution he now delivered the Hatchet into the Hands of the Warriors of his Younger Brethren the Shawanese — Delivered the Rebel Hatchet to Wry Neck the principal Warrior of the Pickowee tribe of the Shawanese

He then took up another Rebel Hatchet with two six Nation Scalps, that had been delivered by the Koochaking Delawares in the Name of the Rebels to the Macogie tribe of Shawanese addressing Lt. Caldwell — Father, Here is another of our Enemys Hatchets which has been laid before us, you see it still in the same position, it was fixed in our Heads by your, and our Enemies — You are wise, Father, And you have always told your Children whatever gave them pain, would effect you in like manner — therefore we leave it to your Wisdom to pluck the Hatchet out of our heads, and bury the flesh of your deceas'd Children, who have fallen in support of your Cause — When you have done this, We hope you will follow your Childrens example, and try its Edge upon your Enemies: As we now flatter ourselves you will rise and come to our assistance, in our present critical situation, We expect therefore in conjunction with you, to turn the blow that was intended against us, by our Enemies, upon themselves —

Delivered a Rebel Hatchet
with 2 Indian Scalps —

The Weed, in behalf of all the Nations present continued upon a Belt and 2 Scalps —

That is their Spies had lately discovered a considerable Body of the Enemy coming towards Caen Tuck, and that several new Forts had been erected in that Country, some of which were extended within a few days travel of the Shawanese Settlements, that it behoved them now to call upon their Father for assistance as he had often promised to support them when pressed by the Enemy — That by all appearance they were preparing to make some formidable attempt, upon them in the Spring: which they in a late Council determined to withstand — Provided their Father would join them time enough to annoy the Enemy, before they were ready to come against the Indians — And that, as the strongest proof of what they said, they had brought here the flesh of those Encroachers upon their Country, which had been lately taken by some of their young men.

The Bottom of the River Chief of the Mingoes got up in behalf of his own Nation, together with the Delawares and Shawanese, and addressed himself to Captain Mc. Kee as follows —

We return our grateful acknowledgments for your repeated kindnesses, from our earliest acquaintance we have always experienced the happy effects of your Wise and good Councils, they have invariably tended not only to promote our own welfare and interest, but that of our Great Father the King of England — We take this opportunity of all Nations being present, to desire our young Men to assist you in every thing, that may lay in their power, as a small proof they have fresh in their memory the many services you have been of to them — They likewise addressed Mr. Elliot, George, Simon, & James Girty, and Simon Surplet, thanking them for having always consulted the above Nations interest ever since their Departure from Fort Pitt, and the assistance they had repeatedly given them —

Lieut. Caldwell to the Raven Chief of the Cherokees.

Being upon my return from visiting the several Villages of my Children who inhabit this Country, I was informed of your arrival at one of their Fires — and called by them to it, to listen to what would pass — Between you & them; I have listened to you with all the attention the important subject you spoke upon required — And hope on your parts, you have delivered the real Sentiments of your Hearts with Sincerity — The consequence of your strict adherence to the general confederacy of all the People of your colour with your Father, must appear to you obvious, and those who put Evil into your Heads against them, in the End will fall upon Yourselves, as it is now directed to you through them —

You cannot forget that it was at your own request to your fathe the English to take compaſsion upon you, that they dispersed the dark Clouds which hung over this Country, between your Northern and Western Brethren — thro' pity to you they restored the clear day between, making you to think and act as one Man whose interest is the same, and which is the ~~union~~ occasion of our meeting to day to renew and confirm, and I hope, with the aſsistance of the Great Spirit, we shall be able to conclude something to our mutual Satisfaction — With respect to the indifferen your Father treated you with at Detroit, I was present at the meeting he gave you, And your words then confirmed him in the suspicion he had on your first appearance, which was, that you had been led astray and deceived by the Virginians. But no I find by your words, you have again got into the straight Path, and the Road that was opened to your Village by your Father at Detroit and his Children, the Summer before last, when some of your Chiefs came there and asked him and the several Nations to take compaſsion on you. That the Virginians had besprinkled your council seats with Blood — He then told you by a large Belt, that he opened & cleared the straight path for you to come and visit him and your Westerns Brethren by way of his Children the Shawnese. And at the same time cautioned you from deviating from this Road, les foolish People might lead you astray and occasion your stumbling. I must impute to this cause all the misfortunes and obstacles you complain of, and that have fallen in your way, in your travelling thro' this Country heretofore; But as I hope your Eyes are now opened, your sincerity in throwing up every bad, will facilitate your way back — As to what you say, relative to the Hatch you received at Detroit being rusty, and not fit for use, I mus tell you, it has contracted it since it came into your poſseſsion. — For to my Knowledge the Hurons who gave it you, have used it with great succeſs against the Enemy, and by constant practice, you will find it retain both its Edge and Polish —

The Meeting adjourned to the 22d. Jany. 1780 — Present as before

The Chief the six Nations having finished his speech to me — Aquitsia or Wry Neck principal Warrior and Chief of the Pickowee tribe of the Shawanese Nation, got up with one of the Rebel Hatchets in his hand and addreſsed himself to the Miamis & Wabash confederacy as follows — Younger Brethren — You now see me holding in my Hand, which has been struck into our Heads, and the manner it has been taken out of the Hands of your Younger Brethren of Chota — my Elder Brethren the six Nations have delivered it to me, to consider what was best to do with it, and I have determined to deliver it to my Younger Brethren the Miamis to forward it to all the Nations towards the sun setting in confederacy with us — The six Nations have already sent one to their Father at Detroit, to be sent to all our Friends to the Northward — as it still remains in our Heads, no doubt our Father will take it out and try its Edge upon His and our Enemies — And we hope by the time he is ready to do this, It will return from our Western Brethren — upon seeing the Hatchet, all our wise People will no doubt recollect the League that was formerly made by all us, of one Colour — And cannot be at a loſs how to act with those who think different from us by accepting a Hatchet from our Enemies. We, however, do not desire you to strike the People, who have struck this into our Heads, but to turn your Faces towards those who are endeavouring to deprive us of our Country —

Here he delivered the Rebel Hatchet to the Miamis —

Younger Brothers — We last Summer unloosed you, as we recollected what you had told us, that you were embarraſsed by your wise People, and did not know the reason why we struck the Big Knife — We then acquainted you with our reasons and untied the Bands with which you said you were fastened, We put a War Billet into your Hands, and encouraged You to use it against our Enemies — You then told us, you would wait 'till you heard from us — You have now been a Witneſs of the Determinations of the principal Warriors of our Confederacy.

4th I therefore take you by the Hand and lead you to our assistance As we are determined as soon as the Season will permit to strike our Enemies —

A Black String

Younger Bretheren the Cherokees of Kisenguens Party — Your business in this Country seems at once to have been, to promote the interest of all us, of One Colour — Upon your Arrival at our Frontier Village we were prejudiced in your favor, as you came the Straight Path, and we pointed to you the Road to our Head Council Fire at Detroit, where our Father sits and our Bretheren the Hurons — We see you now return, and are pleased to find, that what you now hold in your Hand appea to give you Satisfaction — We therefore now take a piece of the Flesh of our Common Enemy, and stick your Hatchet into it, that on your Return you may convince your principal Warriors, that all their Elder Bretheren from the Northward to the Westward, are striking the Big Knife, and that they will no longer imagine it is they alone are engaged — We therefore now exhort you to be strong and continue to act like us untill our Great Father takes the Hatchet out of our Hands informing us at the same time, that the Big Knife crys for Mercy —

A Black string of Wampum

Aquitsica then addressed the Raven Chief holding in hi Hand the Hatchet he (the Raven) had received at Detroit —

Younger Bretheren of Chota — I watched you with m Eye, from the time you left your Village of Chota, untill your arrival at Koochaking — You there took out a piece of Tobacco and addressed yourself to all of us your elder Brether at the same time, informing us our appearance was not agreeable to you; You desired us to smoke your Tobacco and informed us you would pay us a visit before you returned to your own Country — We complied with your desire, but still kept our Eyes fixed upon you, and it gave us pleasure to see, you go towards the Council Fire of our Father at Detroit, and our Elder Bretheren the Hurons — not doubting but that you would there be informed of every thing that concerned the Interest of our general confederacy; according to our Expectations we saw you coming with this Hatchet in one of your Hands, upon which all us of one Colour place our dependance — In your other Hand you had another Hatchet, but it was a bad one; & tended to the Destruction of us all, for that reason our Father and all your Elder Bretheren here have taken it gently out of your Hand, and laid it at this Council Fire, which will enable you to take the stronger hold of this, we are once more going to sharp for you — We wonder you were not ashamed when you complained of this Hatchet, which has been used so succeſsfully by your Father & Elder Bretheren the six Nations against the Enemy — We now desire you to be strong and recollect what our wise People have agreed upon when we all made ourselves as one man at that time our Young People used to visit each other; But the Path is now stopped up and tis you, Younger Bretheren of Chota, that have been the cause of it — It is you, Raven of Chota, that has stopped up the Road, and placed the Virginians in our Country, and your Conduct for so doing appears to us unaccountable; unleſs You had the same views, that the six Nations had, who put the Enemy in Poſseſsion of their Country, that they might the readier destroy them, which they have already done; and We desire you will follow their Example — We once more repeat to you, to be strong; and as you paſs by those Encroachers of our Country, We desire you will shew this Hatchet to your Chiefs with convincing marks of its sharpneſs, and that you once more, like us act with Unanimity —

N. 5

Copies of various
Speeches to, and from
several Nations of
Indians assembled at
S. Dusky &c &c — by
Lt. Caldwell of the Kings
for 8th/ Regt. in Decr. 78 &
Jany. 79 —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Niagara Decr. 5th 1779

Sir;-

Your Excellencys Favors of the 11th November do me too much honor; the satisfaction alone of your approbation of my conduct as an Officer repaid amply my humble efforts. Your unbounded goodness in conferring on me the high Post of Adjutant General deprived me of words to express the gratefull sense I entertain of your Favors.

The only inducement I have to venture on so important an Office, is the flattering hope of being honored with your Excellencys advice, and qualifying myself by serving under so perfect a Master (of the Military Profession) as General Haldimand

Your condescending regard to my welfare, in dispensing with my Attendance to my Duty

From 1779.

Lt. Col. Campbell

29th. Novr.

Recd. 1st. Decr.

Montreal the 6th Decem 1779

Sir

Lieut Houghton Returnd here thursday Last Late he acquainted me that he had reported to Major Carleton at Isle au noix to Be transmitted to your Excellency therefore I will not trouble you Sir with a Repetition of the proceedings & Success of that Party, I Shal only ad that we Lost a very Good Chief of St Regis, on their Return at St John's, I Believe from Drinking too much Rum and I fear much that the young warrior of Caughniwage who was wounded will follow him, he will Certainly Loose a Limb—

I had information Some time agoe that two Caughniwage Indns had Left that Village to Conduct a white man out of the Province

To
His Excellency
General Haldimand

But Could not tell me whither he was French or English — Mr Hought writes me this day that he was a u :colit from this town & that he had a great Pacquett of Letters and h hopes to Discover some Accomplic that were to his going off —

If you will have any Commands for Carleton Island Sir there are thre Indians here sent By Captn Frase to Carry any ~~[illegible]~~ orders you may have for that Post or those further that way

I have the honor to be with Due respect

Sir

Your Excellency's most Obt
and most humble Servant
John Campbell

British Museum

To

His Excellency

General Haldimand &c &c

From 1779 -
Lt. Colonel Campbells
6th Decr. Recd. 8th

No. 1. Copy of a Letter to Mr. Schuyler, Rebel Commissioner for Indian Affairs. —

Niagara Decr. 7th 1779

Sir,

I have lately had a Letter laid before me which was addressed to Major Butler, my Deputy at this Place, probably in Consequence of some prior Overtures respecting the Exchange of some Prisoners among the Indians and proposing a Mode for the same, with the Particulars of which the Indians have been fully informed. The Commander in Chief has been likewise advised of it, who will take such measures thereon — as he thinks necessary. In the mean Time I am particularly requested by the Indians to observe, that (contrary to the unjust Charges made against them) they continue to use their Prisoners with Clemency & Tenderness, and that they generously liberated a considerable Number of Persons who fell into their Hands, as well at Cherry Valley as at other Places, for which they long since expected an equivalent Number of People, more especially those Families who are connected with their Friends, and particularly certain Cayougas, and others who are detained and in a Situation as irksome to themselves, as it is painful to the Indian Confederacy, who expect that these People will be restored to them, if they are to continue that Humanity towards their Prisoners which they have hitherto generally

Philip Schuyler Esqr.

done, and they have now sent some Meſsages from themselves on this Occasion. A Conduct so reasonable on your Part from their Representation to me, requires no Recommendation on mine, and therefore I have only to add, that I have readily inquired of the proper Persons respecting the Col.^o Thurston you mention, but have not been able to find him in any List of Prisoners, and the Parties concerned in the Affir near the Minisink inform me, that, to the best of their Recollection he fell in Action, neither do I find any Prisoner here from that Settlement. I have been particular in my Inquiries from Principles of Humanity which I never thought inconsistent with the Duties of any Office, conferred by the just Sovereign of a generous Nation.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

(Signed) G. Johnson Col.^o of the Six united Natns. & Confederates, & His Majesty's Sole Agent and Superintendant of their Affairs.—

P. S. Major Butler who took Pains on the Occasion has informed me that an old Militia Captain whose Name he thinks was Hoghtaling or Wood, was taken & sent to Canada.

Mrs. Campbell & Family are in Health, & I understand in Readineſs to be exchanged for Mrs. Butler &ca only.—

A true Copy examined & compared.

Richd. Cartwright as Secy

and that Kayangaractha would further consult with Col.^o Johnson about this Matter as they wish'd it conformable to the Sense of the common Cou. As to settl upon Genesee River, it was a Thing they were of themselves much inclined to; that they would consult all their People about it, and believed it woul be agreeable to them, and they hoped the Gener would send Troops to assist them as well as Corn.

day After this they were dismissed with a Dram

Dec.^r 7th Col.^o Johnson wrote the following Letter to the Rebel Commissioner for Indian Affairs, Schuyler.

Niagara Dec.^r 7th 1779

Sir,

I have lately had a Letter laid before me, which wa addressed to Major Butler, my Deputy at this Pla probably in Consequence of some prior Overtures re specting the Exchange of some Prisoners among the Indians, & proposing a Mode for the same, with the Pa ticulars of which the Indians have been fully informed. The Commander in Chief has been likewise advised of it, who will take such Measures thereon

as

you think necessary. In the mean Time I am particularly requested by the Indians to observe, that, contrary to the unjust Charges made against them, they continue to use their Prisoners with Clemency and Tenderneſs, and that they generously liberated a considerable Number of Persons who fell into their Hands, as well at Cherry Valley as at other Places, for which they long since expected an equivalent Number of People, more especially those Families who are connected with their Friends, and particularly certain Cayougas and others who are detained, and in a Situation as irksome to themselves, as it is painful to the Indian Confederacy, who expect that these People will be restored to them, if they are to continue that Humanity towards their Prisoners which they have hitherto generally done, and they have now sent some Meſsages from themselves on this Occasion. A Conduct so reasonable on your Part from their Representation to me requires no Recommendation on mine, and therefore I have only to add, that I have readily inquired of the proper Persons respecting the Colo.

Thurston

Thornton you mention, but have not been able to find him in any List of Prisoners, and the Parties concerned in the Affair near the Minisink inform me that, to the best of their Recollection, he fell in Action, neither do I find any Prisoner here from that Settlement. — I have be particular in my Inquiries from Principles of Humanity which I never thought inconsistent with the Duties of any Office conferred by the just Sovereign of a generous Nation.

Ph. Schuyler Esqr. &c. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

(Signed) G. Johnson, Colonel of the Six united Natns. Confedera
& his Majesty's sole Agent an
Superintendant of their Affairs.

P.S. Major Butler who took Pains on the Occasion has informed me that an Old Militia Captn. whose Name he thinks was Houghtaling or Wood was taken & sent to Canada. Mrs. Campbell & Family are in Health, and I understand in Readiness to be exchanged for Mrs. Butler & her only [illegible]

Decr. 8th. This Morning the above Letter was dispatched as had been before agreed on by the Indians.

This Morning likewise a Runner came in from a Party under the Direction of Rowland Montour. he

left

Montreal 9th Decemr. 1779.

Sir

The Scout I reported to your Excellency to have gone from this in the Beginning of last Month towards Schenectady consisting of a white Man an Interpr. and five Mohawks, returned safe last Monday Evening after the post was gone. They proceeded as far as Johnstown, where my Man prevailed upon one Capt. Flock an acquaintance of his, to go to Albany for Intelligence, which he with Safety effected, procured five rebel papers up to 11th Novemr. and some private Intelligence from one John Glen Esqr. formerly Depy. Quar. Masr. Genl. under General Broadstreet; a Man of Fortune & Consequence, and has hitherto acted the part of a Friend to Government, tho his Brothers hold Employments

To His Excellency
General Haldimand,
&c. &c. &c.

ments under the Congreſs.

Brigr. Powell not being at St. Jeans my Man delivered me the Newspapers which I directly communicated to Brigr. Maclean who told me he would forward them to your Excellency by this Post thinking it unneceſsary to send an Expreſs.

The private Intelligence I also gave him verbally, and have inclosed your Excelly. the written Intelligence as I took received it from Mr. Glen. who aſsured him it might be depended upon as Fact. As to the Action near Stony point there were no certain particulars of it, but the Rebels for certain received a check there, which they were very silent upon, and it was imagined, that on Accot. of the Disaster of the French Fleet, they would not proceed farther than Stony point. My Man also spoke with a Man that came from the Jerseys about the Time the Stony point Affair happd. saw wounded Men brought in, some of them died of their wounds, but the Decision of the Action kept a Secret, that the People there were very tired of the War and ready to lay down their Arms. That the Rebels in the Neighbourhood of Schenectady &c. were not near so violent as heretofore. A Serjeant of Sr. Johns Regiment took the Opportunity of going with this Scout to carry cash to the Families belonging to that Regimt. he picked up in that Neighbourhood a Man of his Regiment taken at Carleton Island last Spring and one of the Emigrants taken 2 Winters ago at Otter Creek in McKinnens Affair, and brought them in with him they broke out of Albany Jail & kept conceald ab.t Johnstown; My Man also says that one Fisher a great Rebel hitherto intended to come away to this Country with a Number of Men.

Last Sunday also came to this Place 11. Men who served as Voluntiers under Joseph Brant in 1778. but for Want of Cloathing & Ammunition were dismissed by him till Spring And trying every Means to join him they were prevented by the frequent Marches of the Rebels towards the Nation Country, and oblidged to keep all the Summer concealed in the Woods, when at last they concluded to join him by Way of Canada, which they with great Fatigue & Suffering effected being near 6 weeks by the way, and coming to St. Jeans they were made to believe it was impracticable to join Brant and inveigled to engage with Maj.r Rodgers, which on Acc.t of Distress & Want, tho much to their Disinclination, they were necessitated to agree to, but finding on their Arrival at this place that they might Joyn Brant in Spring they declared it to be the hight of their wishes to be with a person they had Confidence in & had volunteerly served under with much Satisfaction, and were acquainted with the part of the Country he acted in & where they might be of more Service to their King and Country than in a strange place & under Officers they were Strangers to: and begd of me to represent their case to Your Excellency and petition You for them to be conveyed to Brant if possible & request your Excellencys Answer. I have likewise thought it would not be disagreable to your Excellency to send an Extract of a Letter I recd by the last Arrivals from Niagara from Colo Johnson, and from one Robert Dickin late Secretary to Majr Butler. The blacksmith the affair was divulged to was formerly adopted to the Senica Nation and speaks their Language well. Such a piece of ~~Intelligence of~~ Intelligence as that might have been talked off among the Indians when they were vexed & in an ill Humor after having their Towns &c destroyed by the Rebels, but they may cool upon it and its being made known to the people at the head of their Affairs, its to be supposed they will guard against Attempts of the kind; However it shows the indifferent Management of those hitherto taking care of their Affairs in not influencing & convincing them that the King is their best Friend & protector agt the Rebels who studied their Ruin & Destruction before the Rebellion began; by persuasive Truths & political Arguments wch some Indians are very capable of perceiving but cannot be expected to be given by people of illiberal Educations. Indians indeed as well as Mankind in General may be kept in Humor by presents & Bribes, from white but these are not so lasting & as much to be depended upon, as Impressions made on their Minds which concern their publick Good & future Wellfare. I have some time ago wrote a long Letter upon that head to Joseph who I am persuaded will do Justice to the Subject in explaining it idiomatically. There are two Cayougas & an Onondago Indian lately come from Carleton Island to carry back Letters & Intelligence, altho they were not directed to me the 6 Nat.s Indians, however I have them daily with me, telling me the Indians at Carleton Island sent them for Intelligence to me, which I shall give them in such a Manner as to check any ill Design should they have any such, & caution them to listen to the Emissaries of the Rebels or French. Several Mohawks from Niagara have lately join'd their Nation here, the latter cannot as yet reconcile themselves to the Stoppage of Flour, as they know not what use to make of the small Species. — I have in a former Letter mention'd to your Excellency that Capt. John looked upon the Negroe he captured at Fort George in Sept. last as his property & in consequence of which had made a present of him to his party upon the spot, as he understood that a Negroe taken in Arms was the property of the Captor. — The Negroe a few days after was sent to Chambly, and John went up the Country, but since his Return has frequently teased me abt. the Negroe on Acct. of his warriors as he says, to have the Negroe delivered, or an Allowance made for him.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect
Sir your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Obliged humble Servant
Danl. Claus

From △ 1779.
Col. Claus - 9th Decr
Recd 12th.

Thursday 16th. The Weather having been severely cold for some Days past, the Indians did not meet till this Afternoon.

Present

Col^o. Johnson
Major Butler
M^r. Dease
Doctor Constable
Capt^t. Powel

Capt^t. Brant
Capt^t. Nellis
L^t. Lottrige
L^t. Brant Johnson
R. Cartwright Sec^y.
Nich^s. Stevens Interpreter

The Indians being all assembled & seated, Col^o. Johnson opened the Meeting by performing the Ceremony of Condoleance for 2 young Warriors & a Woman of the Family of Montour who died lately, ~~gave~~ with three Strings of Wampum: then cover'd the Graves with three black Strouds, & as many Pairs of Leggins; after which acquainted them that he was ready to hear the Business they were come upon.

Kayangaraghta then got up, & repeating what had been said on the Ceremony of Condoleance (according to their Custom) returned Thanks for it, and expressed much Satisfaction that their ancient Customs were so well attended to in covering the Graves here. He then returned the Ceremony of Condoleance, observing that we must also have had Losses on our Part, & gave three Strings.—

After this, Gingegeahta having confered some Time with Kayangaraghta rose & delivered himself as follows.

Brother Sorah Wraghquaderha!

You lately communicated to us some Particulars contained in the Generals Letters: we have since considered these Subjects, and now wish to say something relative to them, that you may communicate our Thoughts to the General.

Brother!

We are glad to hear that the General is sending out Parties, for we of the Six Nations have sent several Messages to encourage it, & are pleased to find he will not be idle on his Side. We are now at such a Distance from the Enemy, that the Difficulty of sending out Parties against them from hence is very great, especially as so many of our Villages where we co[illegible] get ourselves ~~[illegible]~~ ~~we used to~~ and get Supplies, are Destroyed. Besides we have lost so much, that it has taken up a great Deal of Time to get our Families cloathed, who were in greater Want than ever they have been; but as that is now by your care of us nearly done, we shall begin to think of something else, for we assure you, that although we have received a severe Blow, our Hearts are still good & strong, and our Arms are not feeble, neither are we at all discouraged. We left our Country it is true, but this was to secure our Women & Children; and we do not look upon ourselves as overcome, for we have never fought; but we shall lose no Time, when the Season shall favor our Movements from this Place, and shall therefore prepare Snow-Shoes &c, and get comfortable Huts for our Wives & Children, and will then endeavour to do something on our Parts against the Common Enemy, & shew them we are Men; and we hope from the Good-News we hear, that we shall be well supported.

To which Col.l Johnson answered,

Brothers!

I have listened attentively to what you have said upon the Matters communicated to you some Time ago, and am very happy to hear your Professions of Zeal & Spirit; while you continue to preserve these you will be esteemed by the King & successful against your Enemies.

I am sensible of the Truth of what you say respecti the Difficulties that must attend the sending out of Pa ties from hence at present, on Account of the Distanc the Season, & the Destruction of your Villages, whi may prevent your obtaining proper Supplies befo you reach the Enemy's Settlements. I am at the sa Time assure you that the General will not require a thing that is impracticable, or to inconvenient, & I have informed him of your present Situation. He has also been mad acquainted with your Transactions, & I know will be partic larly pleased to hear that you still retain your Spirits, & intend to send out Parties against the Enemy. I need not point out to you how useful it would be to cut off Convoy of Provisions going to the Enemy's Cant. Posts, or to get so Prisoners capable of giving us Intelligence, these Things wil naturally occur to you, & your Readiness to do them, I hope, requires no Urging. — The Interest I take in the Honor of the Six Nations will always induce me to point out any Thing that may tend to raise their Reputation, and I per-

sua

made myself you will omitt no Opportunity

I have represented your good Behavior, & what you have suffered for the Common Cause, in such a Manner to His Majesty & to the General, that I am sure particular Notice will be taken of you, and every Thing done on the Part of Government that is reasonable, & I can confidently assure you of the Generals Regard.

Col.o Johnson then added that he wished to replace several of his Indian Friends, who were in high Estimation among their own People as well as with himself, & accordingly proceeded, with the usual Ceremonies, to replace De-Kanady, Oghsquithoshah, & Isaac of Aughquage, with 3 Scalps, a Black belt of Wampum affixed to each.

The Mohawks then replaced David's Child with a Prisoner Boy; after which Col.o Johnson told them he would assist them with all necessary Articles for Snow Shoes &c, and for the Conveniency of their Families preparatory to their going out; - then privately acquainted Kayangaraghta, and some other Chiefs that he was preparing some handsome Cloaths as a particular Compliment for their good

services

97.

Services, & after giving them, Pipes, Tobacco & a Dram, th withdrew.

Friday 17th. Capt. Brant & David a Mohawk Chief waited upon Col. Johnson, and represented to him that they had always been allowed a Schoolmaster to instruct their Ch dren by the late Sir William Johnson; that there wa a Person here last Year to whom they sent their Childr but that he was moved away, & they said they should be ex tremely sorry if the Disturbances of the Times shoul prevent their Children from getting Instructions. They then informed him that for some Time — Stevens Jun had attended in that Capacity but they could not ex him to continue unless he could be allowed some thing to live upon. — Col. Johnson thinking their request reasonable agreed to allow Mr. Stevens twen ty Pounds, every six Months, so long as he continued to discharge the Duty of Schoolmaster.

Saturday 18th. Capt. [illegible]inop Chief of the Nanticokes cam this Morning to Col. Johnson, and acquainted him that he was just returned from Tioga; that in going out hi Inter

[Ca. 178?]

Brothers

We have taken into our Consideration the Information you gave us with this String

Brothers attend to our Answer and Let all the Nations attend thereto.—

You say that you Suppose the treaty held at Fort Stanwix [1784] [1768] was as well in the names of the white people of these provinces as in the Name of the King

Brothers we must inform you that for upwards of thirty Years past all Lands that have been purchased have been purchased in the Name of the King and after they were purchased The King sold them again to the white people, and made them pay 5 Dollars and 3 Shillings Every Year for Every 1000 Acres besides 66 Dollars for Every thousand acres in Patent fees, but the Greater ~~part~~ the much Greater part of the Lands ~~[illegible]~~ bought of you in that time were for the ~~Kings friends~~ Great men on the other side of the water, the Inhabitants here on this Great Island have had very little of them

Brothers. You may remember that you Seldom have held a treaty in which you was not asked to sell some of your Lands, and ~~the~~

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

Since we have had the management of Your Affairs we have never desired you to Sell any.

Brothers. ~~we Shall~~ as You do not know who the people are that have Survey Your Lands beyond the line, we shall give You a [illegible] Minister that he may Inform us, and you may assured that our Great Council at Philidelphia will Effectually put a Stop to such wicked practices and punish Every person that Shall Offend against these orders—

If any person should come on your lands we desire you will Immediately bring them to the Minister that he may write down their Names and Inform us of them and then we shall Immediately proceed against them.

Brothers you may all rest assured that no white people will be Suffered to pass the Line settled at Fort Stanwix for altho that Agreement was made with the King yet as you are Satisfyed with it, we shall take care that it is Complyed with—

[178?]

5 If the Senecas and Cayugas ~~now~~ offer to make peace with us

~~what [illegible]~~

The Commissioners must be Impowered to treat & conclude

what Conditions must the Commissioners Insist upon

Must Hostages be taken to Insure a compliance with the Stipulations—

If hostages are demanded by us & refused by them, is the treaty at an End, or ~~are~~ how are the Commissioners to proceed—

—Must it be Stipulated that they shall Join our Arms against the Enemy—

—what Stipulations in favor of the Canadians

Must they Join us in an attempt on Niagara—or Detroit.—perhaps they may be able to Surprize the former

What presents must be given them, and where are these presents to be procured—

Must we try to get them to destroy the Enemys Ships on Ontario—

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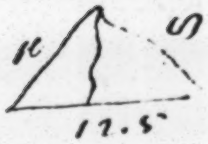

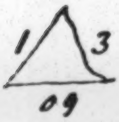

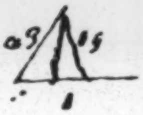

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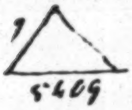

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1780

Col. Guy Johnson to Alex McKee

Indian Department account

II, 269-70

86

Colonel Guy Johnson His Majestys Agent for Indian Affairs To Alexander McKee Deputy .... } Dr

1780			N.Y.C		
April	22d	Delivered at several Meetings held with the Indians assembled to make them acquainted with Colonel Johnson's return to Superintend their Affairs. when sundry Messages were delivered from him to them. — 12,000 Wampum ... @ 80/ £48..0..0 200: twists of Tobacco @ 8/. £80 — One Beef 60 Dollars 24..0..0	£152	0	0
July.	7th	Delivered at a Meeting when the several Nations were collected to deliver them Colonel Johnsons Invitation to attend a Council at Niagara 8,000 Wampum @ 8/ — £32..0..0 One hundred Twists of Tobacco @ 8/ ..... 40..0..0 2 Hogs £16..0..0 — & One Beef £24..0..0 .... 40..0..0	112	0	0
August	16th	Sundry Expences in conducting Chiefs from the several Nations as far as Detroit on their way to Niagara 230 Dollars..	92	0	0
January	14th	Delivered at a General Condolence of the several Nations in this Confederacy 20,000 Wampum. @ 80/ £80..0..0 100 twists of Tobacco .... 8/ .. 40..0..0	120	0	0
			£476	0	0

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Colonel Guy Johnson His Majestys Agent for Indian Affairs To Alexander McKee Deputy .... Dr

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			£476	0	0

Montreal the 8 Jany 1780

Sir

Lieut Houghton Setts out for Quebec Immediatly, he will have the Honor to give Your Excellency all the Information he has Learnt Regarding the Decampments from Caughnawaga. he has Been verry active on this occasion as he is Indeed Been on every occasion the Service Required it, Since I had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

I made every prequisition in my Power to Discover the Frere Brulles accomplices in his Elopment and I cannot as Yett find out that he had any. his Saying that he was Sent by the Bishop, the Chief of his order, and the Paire

at

Caughnawaga, I'm Certain ~~is~~ was a
Falshood Invented By himself
to Engage the Indians to Be
more hearty in his project —
a gold watch which he gave in part
payment to the Indians who
conducted him was deposited
with the wife of one of them a
young man of Lorett is now
in my possession, and I cannot
Learn that he was known to have
Bin with a watch By any of his
acquaintances in this place

Perhaps it may Be known
at Quebec By the assistance
of some of the Brothers —

I have the honor to Be with great
Respect. Sir

your Excellency's Most Obt
and most humble Servt
John Campbell —

His Excellency
General Haldimand

The Accounts of the Indian Department are very nearly made out untill the 25th Decemr last to Bring them Equally forward with those of Other Departments, and if you have no Objections I will Bring them to Quebec whenever I have done Clothing the Villages —

I Beg Leave to wish Your Excellency the compliments of the Season and many Returns of the Same - and to Assure You that I am Yours &c &c

J Campbell —

To
His Excellency
General Haldimand
&c &c &c

From —— 1780.

Lieut. Col. Campbell

1st Jany. — Recd. 4th

The Board agreed with John Flansburgh to have the care of the public Bulls, and that for each of them he have four Skipples of wheat.

November 23. Mr. Mayor laid before the Board an extract of a Letter from the Revd Dr. Witherspoon to the Revd Mr. Westerlo, which was ordered to be read, but no Resolution made thereon.

December 3. Ordered that Mr. Gansevoort revise and amend the Ordinance of this Board for preventing of fire in this City and that he report the same with all convenient speed.

December 7. Mr. Gansevoort, who was appointed to revise and amend the Ordinance for preventing of Fire in this City, reported the Amendments which being read were agreed to, and

Ordered that the same be published, which was accordingly done.

Jeremiah Lansing and John Graham, who were on the 18th of November last appointed Fire Masters for the first ward, having refused to take upon themselves the burden of the said office, and the said John Graham having assigned sufficient reasons why he could not execute the said office, and it appearing also that the said Jeremiah could not execute the said office, whereupon the Board appointed John Boyd and Barent Roseboom Fire Masters for said ward.

At a Common Council held at the City Hall of the City of Albany on the 14th day of January in the year 1780—Present, the Mayor, Ab. Yates Jun., Recorder, John Ja. Beekman, John N. Bleeker, Samuel Stringer, John Roorbach, John Price, Mat. Visscher, Isaac D. Fonda, Peter W. Douw.

Ordered that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain in favor of Thomas Seeger for twelve pounds on account.

Ordered that the Chamberlain receive from Thomas Lotteridge the money due by him to this Board.

January 18. His Excellency the Governor being arrived in Town, it is Resolved that he be addressed in the following words:

May it please your Excellency: We the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your safe return to this place. It affords us the highest satisfaction that your Excellency has by the Suffrages of the People at the last general Election been continued as Chief Magistrate of the State, and we reflect with pleasure on the prospect of a continuation of those civil and religious Liberties which we in common with other our fellow citizens have enjoyed under our free Constitution and your wise administration.

While we lament the late cruel Depredations committed by a barbarous and savage Enemy on the Frontiers of this State, it gives us infinite pleasure that your Excellency (ever attentive to the preservation and protection of its Inhabitants and to punish the insolence and cruelty of the foe) has manifested a disposition and exerted your endeavour to repel their incursions, and altho unsurmountable difficulties have arisen against effecting the complete capture of their force, yet we congratulate your Excellency on their defeat at Canajoharry by the Militia and Levies under the command of Brigadier General Rensselaer, and permit us to add that our happiness is encreased by the consideration that the Enemy were restrained from the completion of their purposes by the vigorous pursuit of your Excellency with the Troops whereby many valuable buildings and great quantities of grain devoted to destruction in the minds of the Enemy were preserved. We wish your Excellency every happiness in public and private life, and whatever the Enemies to our peace and mankind in general may conceive from the intriguing schemes of their enterprizing Politicians we trust that good Providence which has so often protected the people of the United States of America from the secret arts and machinations of the Enemy will abate their pride and confound their devices.

In testimony of the high sense we entertain of your Excellency's zeal & fidelity to promote the public good, we beg leave to present your Excellency with the Freedom of this City.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to wait upon his Excellency with copy of the Address and request of him when and where he will be pleased to receive the Board with the same. The Committee chosen are Alderman John M. Beekman and Mr. Visscher.

February 9. Whereas it has been represented to the Board by the Inhabitants of the second ward (thro the Aldermen and Assistants of the same) that the Wells and Cisterns in the said ward are out of water, and that the same is owing to the great quantity used out of the Cistern at the Hospital thro' which those in said ward are supplied. And whereas it is absolutely necessary that the said Wells and Cisterns be supplied with water not only for the use of the Inhabitants but in case of fire. And whereas all the Wells and Cisterns in the limits of this City are under the sole direction of this Board, Therefore Resolved that after the tenth instant no person or persons do presume on any pretence whatever (except in case of fire) to draw any water out of the said Cistern at the Hospital or any other of the Wells or Cisterns in said ward until such time as the Wells and Cisterns in said second ward are supplied with water.

Resolved that every person who shall draw water out of the said Wells and Cisterns (except as aforesaid) shall for every such offence pay a fine of forty shillings to be recovered before the Mayor, Recorder or any one of the Aldermen, one half which fine to the use of the informer and the other half to the use of the poor of the City.

Resolved that Col^{o} Van Schaick be furnished with a copy of the foregoing Resolutions and that he be requested to make the same known to those under his command.

Resolved that the Committee appointed to revise the Ordinances of this Board be dissolved.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to revise the said Ordinances and that they report as soon as possible their revision and which they conceive necessary to be revived and what new ones are necessary to be made. The Committee chosen for the purpose are Aldermen Stringer and Price together with Mr. Visscher or any two of them.

February 17. The Board proceeded to the consideration of surrendering part of the privileges granted by the Charter to this City, and the applying for additional ones, and thereupon unanimously resolve to surrender up the said privileges to the State and to apply to the Legislature for additional privileges during their present meeting.

Resolved that in order to carry the same into execution a Committee of three be appointed to draw up the surrender and a petition for that purpose. The Committee chosen are Alderman Bleeker and Messrs. Visscher and Gansevoort who are ordered to report as soon as possible.

A Petition signed by Johannis Knickerbacker Jun. in behalf of the Elders and Deacons of the reformed Dutch Church at Schaghtekoke, was laid before the Board praying a Grant of one acre of Land adjoining the Lands of Walter N. Groesbeek.

Ordered that the consideration thereof be postponed, and that Walter N. Groesbeek who claims the Lands be furnished with a copy of the said Petition in order that he may state his claim and lay before the Board an actual survey of his Lands.

February 22. Alderman Bleeker, from the Committee appointed to draw a Petition to the Legislature of this State for the purpose of obtaining additional Privileges for the said City, reported a Draft which being read by Paragraphs was unanimously agreed to.

Ordered that the Clerk copy and sign the same in behalf of this Board and that the same be delivered to the members of the Senate and Assembly of this County.

Ordered that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain in favor of Thomas Seeger for twelve pounds on account.

March 15. Alderman Price and Mr. Visscher reported to the Board that they had revived the Ordinance for regulating the Ferry between the Limits of the City of Albany and Greenbush and for establishing the Rates thereof, and the same being read,

Ordered that the consideration thereof be postponed till next meeting.

March 18. This day leased to Mr. Thomas Lotteridge and Mrs. Catharine Hansen for the term of one year the Ferry between the Limits of the City of Albany and Green Bush for £660 to be paid in quarterly payments, and it is agreed between the Board and the said Lotteridge and Hansen, that the Corporation shall and may from time to time regulate the rate of ferriage as they shall think proper, and that they the said Lotteridge and Hansen shall and will pay to the Board in case of an increase of the rate of ferriage such an additional sum as is in proportion to the above sum and the rate of ferriage now established, and so in case of a decrease of the rate of ferriage.

A Petition of John Stewart, a Refugee, was read praying a House Lot next to John McDonalds near the Fort on the same terms with McDonald.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to examine the ground prayed for and see whether the same can be granted, and that they report with all convenient speed.

March 25. The Ordinance for regulating the Ferry between the Limits of the City and Green Bush was this day published and the following section substituted instead of the first section for transporting every person across the said Ferry.

For transporting any person across said Ferry 5s. 4d (provided that a sucking child or some remnants of goods or other things not herein after rated which a person carries under his or her arm be free from the payment of ferriage). For every man and horse, ox or cow, 24s.; for every live calf or hog 10s. 8d; for every lamb or sheep 8s.; for every dead hog 8s.; for every dead sheep or Lamb 5s. 4d; for every barrel of sugar, rum, molasses, or full barrel 16s.; for every pail of butter 2s. 8d; for every firkin or tub of butter 5s. 4d; for every waggon and two horses £4:16; for every skipple of wheat flour or other grain 2s. 8d; for every hundred weight of lead, pewter or other metal 2s. 8d, and so in proportion; for every hundred weight of beaver or skins 32s. and so in proportion; for every chaise or chair and horse 36s.; for every saddle without a horse 5s. 4d; for every dozen pairs of shoes or boots 5s. 4d, and so in proportion; for every dozen of steel traps 16s. and so in proportion.

The Committee appointed last meeting to enquire whether the prayer of the Petition of John Stewart could be granted, reported that they had received the same and that in their opinion it could be granted. Thereupon resolved that there be leased to the said John Stewart for the term of twenty-one years a piece of Ground containing in breadth in front 30 feet and in length 150 feet at the rate of 24s. in specie yearly, the first payment to be made on the first day of April 1781.

The Ordinance against the profanation of the Lords day commonly called Sunday was this day published.

Resolved that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain in favor of Thomas Seeger on Account for twenty pounds.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means to repair the Docks and Wharfs of this City and that they report the same with all speed. The Committee chosen are Mr. Visscher, Mr. Price and Mr. Fonda, or any two of them.

Resolved that the said Committee prepare an Ordinance for subjecting all persons above [?] the age of sixty years to attend the City night watch.

March 30. Mr. Mayor informed the Board that the Collector of the District of Schaghtekoke had applied to him for the amount of the Tax laid upon their Lands in said District, and requested the opinion of the Board what answer he should give said Collector.

Resolved that Mr. Mayor inform the said Collector that this Board do conceive the Lands in said District are not liable to be taxed.

The Ordinance against the profanation of the Lords day was again considered and amended.

April 8. Margret Jacobs appeared before the Board and informed them that Mrs. Van Dyck wife of Henry Van Dyck had warned her to leave the House in her possession which she held under the Board for about seven years and prayed the advice of the Board in the premises.

Ordered that she be informed and directed to hold the same till the farther order of this Board.

Resolved that a Committee of two be appointed to draw an Ordinance against the profanation of the Lords day. The Committee chosen for the purpose are Messrs. Visscher and Gansevoort Jun.

April 10. Leonard Gansevoort Esquire appeared before this Board and produced a Commission under the great Seal of this State constituting and appointing him Recorder of the City of Albany and took the Oaths of Allegiance and Office.

April 14. Whereas this Board on the third day of May, 1761, by release granted unto the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the reformed Dutch Church in the City of Albany a certain Tract of 153 acres of Land lying northwest of the City, and did thereby reserve liberty and licence for the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of this city, or the major part of them and their successors forever, to lay out Roads and Streets thro' the above mentioned Lands as they should see most convenient, and whereas the said Minister, Alders and Deacons applied this day for leave to lay out the said lands in Lots and allow Streets and Roads in such manner as they might conceive most proper for the term of 25 years. And whereas this Board are well convinced that no inconvenience can in that time arise to this City, and thereupon Resolve to grant the request of the said Minister, Elders and Deacons, and it is hereby granted accordingly for the term aforesaid.

June 23. The Ordinance for regulating the Night Watch having been laid before the Mayor for approbation, and he having agreed to the same, was this day published.

The Letter being prepared to the Legislature being read was agreed to and ordered to be copied, signed by the Clerk and forwarded.

June 28. On application of Col. Van Schaick and Volkert P. Douw in behalf of the Oneyda Indians,

Resolved that the said Indians be informed that the Board will permit them to occupy and enjoy the Lands of this Board commonly called the Tiononderoga Flatts for and during the present war between Great Britain and America and no longer.

July 3. On motion Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to draw a Petition to the Consistory of the reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of Albany for a small piece of Ground near the Ferry for the purpose of building a House for the Ferryman, &c. The Committee chosen for the purpose are Messrs. Swits, Gansevoort Junr, and Visscher.

July 28. Whereas on the application of Colo Van Schaick, commanding officer in this Department, and Volkert P. Douw Esquire, one of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs for the said Department in behalf of the Oneyda Nation, it was Resolved by this Board to permit the said Nation to use and occupy under them the Lands of this Board situate, lying and being in Tryon County commonly called the Tiononderoga Flatts for and during the present war between Great Britain and America, and whereas an application has since been made on behalf of the said Oneida Nation to permit them to occupy the dwelling houses lately occupied by the Mohawk Indians, and whereas this Board considering the Friendship between them and the said Oneyda Nation, who by their faithful adherence to the cause of America have strong shewed the Friendship which has so long subsisted between them, and thereby gained the favor and protection of this Board.

Therefore resolved that the said Oneyda Nation be and they are hereby permitted to enter upon and take possession not only of the said Lands but of the said dwelling houses above mentioned, to hold to them the said Oneyda from and under this Board as Tenants for and during the present war between Great Britain and America.

Resolved that Major Jillis Fonda Esquire be and he is hereby empowered in behalf of this Board to put the said Oneyda Indians in possession of the premises aforesaid agreeably to the preceding Resolution, and it is hereby provided that whatever is sown and planted on said Lands shall be reaped by those who sowed or planted.

Sir: I enclose you Resolutions which have been entered into by the Corporation. It is their wish when you put the Indians in possession that you take a couple of persons with you to see that you in the name of the Board put them in possession, and it would be well if you explained to them the Resolution in a short Speech of Friendship and by that means get their answer, lest after the war is over they may pretend to remain on the Land as having been possessed by the Mohawk.

We are Sir, your humble Servants.
By order. M. VISSCHER.

To Major Jelles Fonda.

August 15. Resolved that the Clerk furnish General Schuyler with a copy of the Plan of the proposed Seminary in this City and also copies of the Letters by this Board wrote to George Merchant at Princeton, and further that the Clerk send duplicates of said Letters and Plan to said Mr. Merchant, and that said Mr. Merchant be requested to send his answer to the care of General Schuyler, at Camp, and that in case he declines, General Schuyler transmit a copy of said Plan together with a Letter to Mr. of Philadelphia.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a Draft of a Bill agreeable to the Petition presented to the Legislature last winter respecting the Charter Rights of this City and that the same be ready by the first day of September next, and at that time be laid before the Board. The Committee chosen for the purpose are Mr. Recorder, Alderman Bleeker and Mr. Visscher.

August 29. Resolved that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain in favor of Samuel Bagnell for wheat at the market price to the amount of two dollars.

Resolved that a piece of Ground of about an acre lying near Thomas Wilkinsons be let to Mr. Josiah Crane for the term of three years at the rate of ten shillings per year.

September 15. It being suggested to the Board that divers of the Tenants of this Board at Schaghtekoke refuse paying their rent, and that divers other matters require that the Board should go there and regulate the same, and also to enquire about the rents, therefore Resolved that a Board be opened at the House of Johannis Knickerbaker Junior at Schaghtekooke aforesaid on Wednesday the 20th instant.

Resolved that the Overseers of Highways in this City be and they are hereby directed to have the several Roads or Highways leading to this City and within the Liberty thereof repaired with all speed, and that the Clerk furnish the said Overseers with copies of this Resolution.

At a meeting of the Common Council at Schaghtekooke 21st Sept. 1780.

The Tenants being sent for to know their Reasons for non payment of the Rent due this Board appeared, and made various excuses, pretending that no Rent was due.

September 26. The Board having returned from Schaghtekooke and the Tenants having refused to pay the Rent they are in arrear for the Lands, and being desirous to take the most speedy measures for the recovery thereof, Thereupon resolved that a Committee of four be appointed to examine the Deeds and Papers of the several Tenants aforesaid, and that they make report with all convenient speed of the conditions of the said Deeds. The Committee chosen for the purpose are Mr. Recorder, Alderman Roorbach and Messrs. Visscher and Gansevoort Junr.

Ordered that the Clerk draw an order on the Chamberlain to pay the following accounts: Gerardus Groesbeek for nine Skipples of wheat; Cornelius V. Deusen do; Abraham E. Wendell for £11 hard money; John R. Bleeker for £1:6 do.

Resolved that the Chamberlain furnish the Committee above appointed with all such papers and deeds as they may require they passing their receipts for the same.

Certificate to Wheeler Douglass that he has engaged to supply the market with all kinds of meat.

At a Common Council held at the City Hall of the City of Albany on the 29th of September 1780—Present, the Mayor, Leo. Gansevoort Esq. Recorder, John Price, John Roorbach, Samuel Stringer, John M. Beekman, Cornelius Swits, Leo. Gansevoort Junr, Ab. I. Yates, Peter W. Douw, Mat. Visscher.

This being the day of Election the Aldermen of the respective wards made a return of the Polls from which it appeared that the following Gent. were elected by plurality of voices:

Aldermen.	Assistants.	Constables.
	First Ward.	
John Roorbach	Matthew Visscher	Jacob Kidney.
Peter W. Yates	Robert McClellan	Jacob W. Hilton.
	Second Ward.	
John Ja. Beekman	Isaac D. Fonda	John Brower
John N. Bleeker	Peter W. Douw	Benjamin Simmend
	Third Ward.	
Samuel Stringer	Leonard Gansevoort Jun.	Jacob H. Wendell
John Ten Broeck	Cornelius Swits	M. A. Lansing Jun.

And thereupon Alderman Price suggested to the Board that he received a number of the voters who polled at the election in the first ward for John Roorbach and Peter W. Yates Esquire as Aldermen were not entitled to, or had a right to vote, and thereupon moved for a Scrutiny.

Resolved therefore that a scrutiny be granted and that the Clerk furnish the parties concerned with copies of said Poll Lists with all convenient speed and further that it be recommended to the said parties to exchange lists containing the voters names they object to together with the reasons of their exceptions by Thursday next.

Resolved that Monday the ninth day of October next be and is hereby appointed for hearing the parties in said scrutiny.

The Board then proceeded to appoint a Chamberlain and Marshall, and thereupon appointed Garret Ryckman Chamberlain and Thomas Seeger Marshall for the ensuing year.

Whereas the Ferry leading from this City to Green Bush is at present extremely inconvenient to Travellers by reason of the Corporation not having any ground near the said Ferry whereon to erect a dwelling house for the residence of the Ferryman and the accommodation of such Travel-

113.

In the Afternoon Rowland Montour came & delivered to Colo. Johnson Testimonials given to him and his Brother by Lt. Col. Caldwell in March 1776, & desired to have them renewed.

Sunday 16th. This Morning the little Beard, a Chief Warrior of Genesea, came & informed Colo. Johnson that he was come in last Night in Order to carry some Provisions to his Party who were out a Hunting, & would return to-morrow; that he remembred what was said to the the Beginning of the Winter & would take Care to keep them out that they might not be troublesome for Rum; but should leave his Brother and four of his People only who he hoped would sometimes be allowed a little of that Article.

Soon after came some of the Chiefs of the Onadagoes of Chinings. They produced a Belt which they received from the late Sir William Johnson in the Course of the last War, on which was represented

two

Figures at either End holding a Chain represent by a Row of black Wampum running through the Belt. by the one Figure was meant Sir William Johnson, & the other the Indians. — Upon this Belt they spoke to Col. Johnson, telling him, that altho' they had been considered as People of Consequence in the Onandagae Nation by Sir William Johnson, and had always acted faithful to their Engagements with him, yet they found that they were rather slighted & neglected by the Rest of their Nation, who never imparted their Councils to them, nor acquainted them with any Business in agitation. — They then spoke upon three Strings to inform him that they never participated in the Favors received by the others, such as Paint &ca — and said that whenever they had any Request to make they would do it by David Carackgunty, with whom they would always send one of their People. — They again spoke upon three other Strings, to acquaint him that as their Chief Warrior was dead they had appointed Canihagaro to succeed him, and had added to him Sagoyhotatago as an Assistant. — They then delivered in a Return of their People amounting to $\overset{\text{Men}}{13}$. — $\overset{\text{Wom.}}{11}$. — $\overset{\text{Chil.}}{8}$. —

Col.^o Johnson answered that he remembered the Belt very well having seen it often. That he was now in the Place Sir William was represented to hold on that Belt, that he should act in the s Manner as he had done as far as Circumstances would admit, and would always respect & regard them as long as they continued to deserve i He told them he was sorry to find there shou be any Misunderstanding amongst them; that a their Village was destroyed, & they would be intirely with the others of their Nation he would re commend to them a close Union & Agreemen in every Thing, which was now more than ever necessary. — Gave back the Belt. —

He was surprised he said at what they mentioned of their not sharing with the others. —

that he had appointed Officers to take Care of particular Sets of People, and to see them get the necessary Supplies of Cloathing &c, which they as well as others had received: that as for any particular Favors he had desired them, till the Concourse of Indians, and other Business would permit him to attend to that Matter, & that he would now give them some little Things of that Kind. — He said he approved of the two People they wished to make their Head Warriors, and put a Gorget upon each; He then gave the Chief a Hat &ca & distributed some Paint among them; after which they took their Leave, telling him they were always ready to go upon any Service when called upon.

A Delaware Chief from the Susquehanna came also to pay his Respects to Colo. Johnson, said it was a long Time since he had seen him, that he was glad to find him well &ca. He received a small Present & withdrew.

At Night David Carachquenty came to Colo. Johnson, & inform-ed him of his Success in Regard of the Business he had mentioned to him the 13th Inst. about an Indian Party; and after hearing Colo. Johnson's Opinion upon it, & receiv-ing his Approbation he took his Leave.

Monday 17th This Morning Colo. Johnson gave a Coat & some silver Works to the Little Beard of Seneca, and also some Linen, a Shirt, & some Silver Works, to Kashawadon & his Children of the same Village.

Tuesday 18th Colo. Johnson gave a few Silver Works and ~~some other Things~~ Cloathing this Morning to a Daughter of John Skails, a Relation of Sayangaraytas, and a Woman of some Consequence among the Senecas. She gave him a Paper which she received from Major Butler in 1777 as a Recommendation; and her present Husband called Kanadunke gave up a Medal he had received from him and, asked how it should be disposed of. Colo. Johnson told him as he had always heard a good Charac-

No. 2) Copy of a Letter from Mr. Schuyler, Rebel Commiſsioner for Indian Affairs, to Colo. Johnson. —

Albany Jany. 23rd. 1780

Sir,

Your Dispatch of the 7th. Decr. last was delivered to me this Morning.

The Addreſs as far as it concerns myself I should have considered with perfect Indifference. — To the sovereign Authority of the United States, whose Officer I have the Honor to be, it is disrespectful, and Nothing but the Cause of Humanity could have justified me in breaking its Seal.

The Indians who have made War upon these States, in Violation of their most solemn Treaties, are very far from deserving the Encomiums you hazard in their Favor. — They have not it is true, destroyed or carried away all the Inhabitants who have had the Misfortune to fall into their Hands; but that after the unexampled Ravages and Barbarities they have, without Provocation perpetrated, an Officer in high Confidence of what you are pleased to term a generous Nation, should speak of the Clemency & Tenderneſs of those Indians is not a little surprising! You will pardon a Reflection which you have drawn forth by awakening a Sense of Calamities never to be remembred without Horror. — I do not mean to enter into Altercation.

On what Principle it is that the Indians expect an Equivalent for any of the Citizens of these States whom they did not carry into Captivity, I am ignorant, and you have not been pleased to explain. — Some of the unhappy Sufferers at Cherry Valley were left by the Commanding Officer of the Party who burned that Village, and an Equivalent was afterwards claimed for them by Captn. Butler in your Service. — such a Claim could not have been supported upon any Principles whatever. — Unused to Favor or Clemency from our Enemies, the Officer commanding in this Department, did not avail himself of the obvious Objections to this Claim, but as I am informed, complied with it on the first Application. An equal Number of Persons residing here, & whose Relations had removed to Canada, had Permission to retire thither; many have availed themselves of this Indulgence, and others who set out late in the Season on their Journey, were retarded only by the Severity of the Weather — The Indians expect nevertheless that their People should be restored to them as a Condition of their continuing that Humanity towards their Prisoners, which you seem to believe they have generally exercised. You Sir will do well to put them in Mind of the Treatment the Mohawks received at our Hands, when they were seized near Lake George in the very Act of joining what was once your Army. — Let them also be reminded that the same Lenity & Forbearance have been experienced by such of the Senecas, Cayougas & Onandagoes as were in our Power, and that we have even permitted the Cayougas to whom you particularly refer, to proceed as far as Oneyda, in the Prospect that the Exchange I had proposed in my last Letter to Colo. Butler would have been accomplished. — This is a Leſson which should be taught them for the Honor of the Nation for whose Generosity you are an Advocate, and for the Sake of that Humanity you seem to approve. While they act under your Superintendance, every private & national Consideration calls upon you to inculcate Principles of Humanity and to restrain them from Cruelties to Prisoners. It is not from any Dread of their Power that these Suggestions are dictated. The Barbarities they may commit upon Individuals will be deplored and condemned by all Mankind, and they have a recent Proof that the just Resentment of an injured People, can reach the most remote Corners of their Wilderneſs.

Mrs. Butler will be permitted to proceed to Canada with her Family whenever proper Aſsurances are given that Mrs. Campbell & hers will have the like Indulgence.

Two of the Mrs. McDonalds & Mrs. Fraser have solicited to return to New York or Canada with their Families. Their Wish will be complied with, whenever I am advised that Families who have been carried into Captivity from these States will be liberated.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

(Signed) Ph. Schuyler, President of the Board of Commiſsioners for Indian Affairs, in the northern Department —

Colo. Guy Johnson &ca —

A true Copy examined & compared
Richd. Cartwright as Secy

No 9 Colo. Johnsons, & the Six Nations Procee-
-dings with four Rebel
Inds. 6 March 1780—

12th Feby 1780

BRITISH MUSEUM

he approv'd of wt Majr Butler had done & would confirm ~~Major Butler's choice~~ him, in his Station, & accordingly put the Medal again about his Neck, desiring him to wear it, & shew himself worthy of it.

Wednesday 19th.. Liquor was given to the Cayougas and Onandagoes to Day for a War Feast.

The Indians in Consequence of the Conversations between Col. Johnson & Caraghquenty, and others, before ~~referred~~ mentioned, are preparing two large Parties to go on Service as soon as the Snow will admit of it.

Thursday 20th.. This Morning Koharawse a young Onandagoe of the Wolf Tribe was presented to Col. Johnson by Cockendenoy & Canastatego of the same Nation, as the Head Warrior of the Wolf Tribe. He is of the Family of the late Kuinghraghtie of Onandagoe & has his Medal in Possession. Col. Johnson gave him a small Half-Moon Gorget and told him he hoped his good Conduct would soon entitle him to some more valuable Mark of his Esteem.

Sunday 23d.. The Cayougas called upon Col. Johnson

to Day, and in the Presence of the Mohocks ma
a very long Speech, chiefly reſpecting their Condu
and Intentions. They said, they did not go to
Carleton Island, because they wished to stay wi
the Body of the Indians, and form large Pa
ties against the Enemy, to shew them & the
World that though they had been neceſsitated t
abandon their Settlements for a Time, they we
still Men and would take ample Revenge; th
they had heard at different Times, that they we
not counted as zealous as others, which gave
them much Concern, as they were concious the
did not deserve to be so thought of, having long
acted with as much Vigor as others, & in Proportion
to their Numbers had lost as many People: th
said they expected to join the rest on the first Occa
sion, and as the Senecas were numerous, and
Sayangaraghta had taken the Lead in his
Nation, and was considered as influencing the
Operations of the Rest, they had waited for some
Time

Time, in Expectation of his Rising, and setting them an Example, but finding that the Season was approaching when the Creeks & Rivers would be swelled with the melting Snows, they had determined to embrace the Advice that had been some Time ago given them by Col.o Johnson, & to go to War, in which they were incouraged by the Mohawks That they did not mean to go in little Parties to get an Individual or two but in a general Body, and try to do something that might shew their Resentment against the Rebels, & their Zeal for Government.

They then produced ten black War-Belts, and mentioned by whom, & for what Purpose they were given, concluding with a Request that Col.o Johnson would take an Opportunity of Communicating what they had said to the Senecas, as they meant to set out in a few Days.

1st Belt to replace John, Caraghqunty's Brother, from Tegrais's Nephew.

2nd from Tagaais to replace Kanawia of Canadaraga.
3rd to replace a principal Cayouga.
4th Ditto from Caraghquenty to replace Nickenjara, a Seneca, killed at Fort Stanwix.
and six more given by Cayougas to replace different Persons.

They said they would the next Opportunity acquaint Colo. Johnson with the Number of those ready for Service, & the place they wished to go against.

Monday 24th. This Morning a Party of Messesaugas with their Chief. Pagh Quay Patterabeak came to Colo. Johnson told him they lived a good Distance off, between this and Detroit, that they were happy at this Opportunity of seeing him, that they had come at present to trade a few Skins, and would be here early in the Spring to offer their Service to go out to War: that they had been out against the Rebels several Times & acquitted themselves well. They said they hoped they might be allowed to get Rum from the Traders, and as it was long since they had sucked the Breast, they requested a little of his own

Albany Jan.ry 2d 1780

Sir

I do myself the honor to
Inclose Your Excellency Copy of a
" Letter from Colo: Guy Johnson with
" Copy of my answer. the reason I
have assigned for opening his, Improperly
" as it was addressed, did really weigh with
me but a desire to profit by the
" Opportunity it afforded me to facilitate
" the execution of a business which pro=
" :mises a beneficial Issue to these States
and to accomplish which I had already
dispatched Trusty persons to Oneida
from whence they were to have pro=
:ceeded to Niagara, when Colo: Johnsons
letter arrived which detained them until

further Instructions from me which were immediately dispatched, and I hope their Journey will be prosecuted in a very few days —

I have the honor to be
with great respect & Esteem
Your Excellency's
most obedient
Humble Servant
Ph: Schuyler

His Excellency Samuel Huntington Esqr
&c &c

Letter from Mr P. Schuyler
Jany 24. 1780
Read Feby. 5

Sir

Niagara Decr. 7th 1779

I have lately had a Letter laid before me, which was addreſsed to Major Butler, my Deputy at this place, probably in consequence of some prior Overtures respecting the exchange of some Prisoners among the Indians, and proposing a Mode for the same, with the particulars of which the Indians have been fully Informed, The Commander in Chief has been likewise advised of it who will take such measures there on as he thinks neceſsary In the mean time I am particularly requested by the Indians to Observe that (contrary to the unjust charges made against them) they continue to use their prisoners with clemency and Tenderneſs, and that they generously liberated a considerable number of persons who fell in their Hands as well at Cherry Valley as at other places for which long since expected, an equivalent number of People, more especially those Familys who are connected with their Friends, and particularly certain Cayugas and others who are detained and in a Situation as irksome to themselves, as it is painfull to the — Indian Confederacy, who expect that these people will be restored to them if they are to continue that Humanity towards their prisoners which they have hitherto generally done and they have now sent some Messages from themselves on this occasion. A Conduct so reasonable on your part from their representation to me, requires no recommendation on mine and therefore I have only to add that I have readily inquired of the proper persons respecting the Colonel Thurston you mention, but I have not been able to find him in my List of Prisoners, and the partys concerned in the Affair near the Minisink inform me that to the best of their recollection he fell in Action, neither do I find any prisoners here from that Settlement. — I have been particular in my Inquirys from principle of humanity which I never thought inconsistent

-tent with the dutys of any Office conferred by the Just Sovereign of a Generous Nation.

I am, Sir

Your most Obedient Servt.
G Johnson Colonel
of the Six United Nations
& Confederates & his Majes-
-tys Sole Agent & Superin-
-tendant of their Affairs

Major Butler who took pains on the occasion, has informed me that an Old Militia Capt. whose Name he thinks was Hoys-telling or [illegible] was taken & sent to Canada. Mr. Campbell's Family are in health & I understand in readiness to be exchanged for Mrs. Butler & family &c.

Copy.

Letter from Col Guy Johnson
to Genl Schuyler
Decr 7. 1779
Enclosed in Mr Schuyler's
Letter of Jany 24. — →

Albany Jan^ry 7th 1780

Sir

Your dispatch of the 7th December last was delivered to me this Morning.

The Address so far as it concerns myself I should have considered with perfect Indifference. To the Sovereign Authority of the United States, whose Officer I have the Honor to be, It is disrespectful & nothing but the Cause of humanity could have Justifyed me in breaking the Seal.

The Indians who have made War on these States in violation of their most Solemn Treaties are very far from deserving the Encomiums you hazard in their favor, They have, tis true, destroyed or carried away all the Inhabitants who have had the Misfortune to fall into their Hands but that after the unexampled savages and barbarities they have without provocation perpetrated an Officer in high Confidence of what you are pleased to term a Generous nation should speak of the lenity and tenderness of these Indians, is not a little surprising. You will pardon a reflection which you have drawn forth by awakening a sense of calamities never to be remembered without Horror. I do not mean to Enter into Altercation.

On what principle It is that the Indians

expect Equivalent for any of the Citizens of these
States whom they didnot carry into Captivity I
am Ignorant, and you have not been pleased to ex-
plain. Some of the unhappy Sufferers at Cherry-
Valley were left there by the Commanding Officer
of the party who burned that Village and an Equi-
valent was afterwards Claimed for them by Capt.
Butler in your Service. Such a Claim would not
have been Supported on any principle whate-
500 ver ~~[illegible]~~ unmixed to favor or Clemency from an Enemy
— The Officer commanding in this Department didnot
avail himself of the obvious Objections to this
Claim but as I am informed complied with it on the first
Application. An Equal number of persons re-
siding here and whose Relations had removed
500 to Canada had permission to retire thither,
many have availed themselves of the Indulgence
and others who set out late in the Season on
their Journey were retarded only by the Severity
of the Weather — The Indians expect nevertheless
that their people should be restored to them
as a ~~Consideration~~ Condition of their Continu-
ing that Humanity towards their prisoners
500 which you seem to hope they have Generally exercised
You Sir will do well to put them in mind
of the Treatment ~~they~~ themselves received at our Hands when
they were ~~[illegible]~~ seized near Lake George in the
very act of joining what was once your Army
Let them also be reminded that the same Len-
ity

-ty and Forbearance have been experienced by such of the Senecas Cayugas and Onondagas as were in our power, and that we have even permitted the Cayugas to whom you particularly refer to proceed as far as Oneida in the prospect that the Exchange I had proposed in my last Letter to Colonel Butler would have been Accomplished. This is a lesson which should be taught them for the Honor of the Nation for whose Generosity you are an Advocate and for the sake of that humanity which you seem to approve, while they act under your Superintendance every private and National consideration calls upon you to Inculcate principles of Humanity and to restrain them from cruelties to prisoners. It is not from any Dread of their power that these Suggestions are dictated — the barbarities they may commit upon Individuals will be deplored and condemned by all Mankind and they a recent proof that the Just resentments of an Injured ~~[illegible]~~ people can reach the most remote Corner of their Wilderness —— Mrs Butler will be permitted to proceed to Canada with her family whenever proper Assurances are given that Mrs Campbell and her will have the like Indulgence —— Two of the Mrs McDonald's and Mrs Frazer have Solicited to return to New York or Canada with their Families their wishes will be complied with whenever I am advised that Families who have been carried into Captivity from these States will be liberated.

I am Sir

Your most obed^t. Serv^t.

Ph: Schuyler.

Colonel Guy Johnson

Copy.

Gen. Schuyler's Letter
to Col. Guy Johnson
Jany 29. 1780

124.

would renew & strengthen that Belt, which the other reque
he would after getting a little Liquor took his leave for the Present

Tuesday 25th The Party of Messengers consisting of 13 Men, 11 W
men & 3 Children were cloathed to Day, & received besi
some Knives, Paint, Pipes & Tobacco, & something extraordinary
for the Chief of the Party Packqua ~~[illegible]~~.

About Noon the Cayougas met at Col. Johnson

Present.

Col. Johnson Supt.
Major Butler } Depy. Agents
Mr. Dease }
Captns. Johnston
-- Powel
-- Nellis
-- Brant

Lts. Lottrige
-- Clement
-- Docksteder
R. Cartwright Secy.
Lewis Clement, Interpr.
Sayangaraghta,
Chief of the Senecas,

and having signified that they were all assembled and attentive, Col. Johnson produced the Belts they gave him the 23rd Inst. telling them he remembred what they then said to him, and for whom those Belts were given, and would now give them his Opinion and Answer, which he did as follows.

Brothers!

At a Meeting held some Time ago, I mentioned that Parties were going out from Canada, & that I thought it would be serviceable, as well as doing Honor to the Confederacy of the Six-Nations, to shew yourselves active, and send out Parties from this Place during the Winter. I am glad to find that you have paid Attention to my Advice, and hav now prepared a large Party to go against the Rebels.

Brothers!

With Regard to what you said of its having been insinuated, that you have not behaved as well a others, I have heard Nothing material upon it. There always will be good & bad among every People, and some more zealous than others: I hope I shall have no Reason to make Distinctions, or look upon you bu with the same Regard & Esteem, as the other Branche of the Confederacy.

Brothers! I make no Doubt but your Party will meet with Success, and be for the Credit of the whole Confederacy and shew both your Friends & Foes, that you are Free Men, and eager to revenge the Injuries you have suffered. — I dare say it is a Step which will meet with the hearty Concurrence and Approbation of every Part of the Confederacy, as well as it does with mine. And to give Strength & Sanction to your Proceedings, as well as to shew my Regard and Concern at the Death of Segwyawatha a Cayuga of the principal Tribe, I do now give this Belt to be added to the rest, that he may be replaced, and that I may no longer feel Concern at the Loss of so good a Man.

Then concluded with observing that as the Season was advancing he wd. recommend Dispatch to them — —

Gave a black Belt of 8 Rows with G.I. at the End of it, and returned the Rest.

Kingageghta, alias The Fish-Carrier, then got up & spoke as follows.

Brother!

Great Part of our ancient Customs & Ceremonies have, thro' the Loss of many of our

principal

principle Men during the War, been neglected & forgotten so that we cannot go through the Whole with our ancient Propriety. We have for some Time past, substituted the smaller Kettle, & the small Canoe, (in which only a Part joins) to the large Kettle & great Canoe, which signified that the whole Confederacy were engaged in the Expedition. – We return you many of Thanks for strengthening & encouraging us in our present Undertaking by throwing in your Belt as our Head it is what we wished & hoped for, & therefore gives us great Pleasure. – We are busily employed now in finishing our Snow-Shoes, and getting every Thing in Readineſs; and as soon as we are prepared, will let you know, & give in your Numbers, and we shall make no Delay, as we are sensible of your good Advice on that Head.

Colo. Johnson then expreſsed much Satisfaction at what had paſsed, and after drinking a glaſs round, he dismiſsed them well pleased.

Wednesday

Copy/

Quebec January 31st 1780 —— 115

Sir

My Lt Col. Rogers who arrived here from Penobscot the 18th Instt. I have the Honor to Receive your Excellency's Letter of the 28th of July with a Duplicate of one dated the 9th September, and one of the same time date in Cypher, and I take the Opportunity of an Express Returning to Halifax which I have detained a long time in hope of hearing from You, to Return Your Excellency my thanks for the Detail of Affairs in your interesting Dispatch which You have so obligingly given me — It is with the most sensible Concern that I observe by your Letters the unfortunate Result of your endeavours to assist me, by your obliging Compliance with my Request of a Reinforcement and I beg leave to assure Your Excellency that great as the Disappointment might be to me in my present Situation, what I feel from it is much increased by the knowledge I now have of the inconveniency with which it was attended to yourself at that time, far from my Ideas, having been told by the [illegible] that you were to be considerably reinforced from Europe & that the Troops from the Islands were to Return to you, but if that had not been the Case, my Conduct must inevitably have been the same, consistently with my Ideas of my duty and the Exigency of the Times, which are in no shape altered since my letter to You of the 1st November — an Extract of which I send You in Cypher lest it should not have Reached You — I am sorry to find the difficulty of Communicating with You is Encreased, the Original of your Duplicate not being [illegible] of General Phillips's Letters, & those from Mr [illegible] Copied I have [illegible]

[illegible]

were to be Considerably Reenforced from Europe & that the Troops from the
Islands were to Return to you but if that had not been the Case, my Conduct
must inevitably have been the same, consistently with my Ideas of my duty
and the Exigency of the Times, which are in no Shape altered since my
Letter to you of the 1st of November — an Extract of which I send you in Cypher
lest it should not have Reached You — I am sorry to find the difficulty
of Communicating with You is so great, the original of your Duplicate inclosed
patch of General Phillips Letter, & then for the Rest Copies I have not
received and it is much to be feared that the [illegible] conveying Letters you say
have been sent to me containing a very interesting subject have fallen
into the Enemy's Hands, my Fears for the Chance of Conveyance is now so uncer-
tain that it will be impossible for a Messenger to get through, this makes
Correspondence by Cypher the more necessary, & I shall answer in part
Your Excellency's Letter in that manner. I shall wait with the utmost
anxiety to hear the Event of the very important Operation you were going to
undertake when you last Wrote — Should it prove Successful it will give a
happy Turn to Affairs throughout the Continent, and this Province will
particularly feel the Effect. — I am sorry to acquaint Your Excellency that
very Little is to be expected, in Cooperation, from the Loyalists upon the
Frontiers of Virginia, at least from those with whom we have

any Intercourse — I mean the Western Nations who Resort to Detroit and that neighbourhood — Indefatigable pains have been taken, & immense sums lavished to Secure their Affections, yet they are every Day declining, particularly since the American Alliance with the French, to whom they have an old & a very firm attachment, add to this, the Misfortune of Mr Hamilton, the disappointment of Succours promised to them from year to year, the encouragement given by the Spaniards from the Mississippy to debauch them, & the advances of the Enemy on all sides into their Country which with all the Presents that can be given, they can't be brought vigorously to oppose — it is too plain that nothing but the Example & Continual Remonstrances of the Five Nations prevented their abandoning us entirely — I have however the pleasure to acquaint Your Excellency that since my last Letter, I have had accounts from thence informing me that a Scout Conducted by White men, fell in with & Totally defeated a Party of the Enemy on their Way to Fort Pitt from New Orleans, where they had been sent to treat with & Collect Supplies from the Spanish Governor — they themselves were returning with three Loaded Batteaux up the Ohio, when they were attacked — the Party Consisted of about 60 men, Commanded by a Colonel David Rogers who with about 40 men were Killed upon the Spot and a Colonel Campbell with 3 more were taken Prisoners; some Letters & Papers were found upon them — I transmit for your Information Copies of the most Interesting.

Upon hearing that the Enemy were collecting Troops and Cattle together [illegible] the Militia to reinforce Mr Washington, I sent out a strong Scout towards Albany to alarm that Frontier and Destroy the Country, it returned with some [illegible] & Prisoners & the Officer who Commanded reported that he had destroyed a great quantity of three Loaded Batteaux, up the Ohio; when they were attacked — the Party consisted of about 60 Men, Commanded by a Colonel David Rogers who with about 40 Men were Killed upon the Spot and a Colonel Campbell with 3 more were taken Prisoners. Some Letters & Papers were found upon them — I transmit for your Information Copies of the most Interesting.

Upon hearing that the enemy were detaching Troops and Artillery &c for the [illegible] & [illegible] at [illegible], I sent out a strong [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] the Frontier and Distress the Country [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & the Officer who Command [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] grain, Horses, Cattle & Stock of all kinds — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] those purposes. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Officers of Corps by their authority as Commander in Chief, rank with those of Established Regiments [illegible] Provincials, not having [illegible] Instructions from home [illegible] [illegible] these Matters, I am rather at a loss how to act. Their [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Commissions [illegible] entitled to Rank with the Army, not having been issued by an act of the Crown, & their Commissions not being signed by the Commander in Chief or Governor of a Province, but as the King's Representative, I have hitherto made them do duty as Provincials, as well for the good of the Service as in Justice to Experienced Officers — but if the contrary has been found necessary in the Southern Army, I shall readily adopt it, to avoid the possibility of the Service suffering from Jealousy or discontent. I likewise request to know if such Troops, Particularly Rangers on high Pay, are allowed Contingent Men, Batt & Forage Money — & if any Promise has been made them which they are to expect half Pay —— Lieut Col. Rogers has been here some ti

but he has been so Circumstanced as not to admit of my having much 116
Conversation with him — he says he has engaged 500 Men for his Corps, but
different Reports Urge me to fear that this is not a very faithful one
I have the Honor to be with great Esteem & Regard Your

Excellency's Most Obed.t & Most humble Servant

P.S.

Since I closed my letter a Scout which was sent for Intelligence is arrived, & has brought two Papers wherein the Count D'Estaing's Commencing at Savannah being sufficiently confirmed to admit of Congratulating your Excellency on that Event which, it is to be hoped, will not a little contribute to the Success of your operations in Carolina — the Result of which I shall long with great anxiety to be informed of —

[illegible] from the [illegible]
[illegible] to Gen[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] January 1780

Kingageghta, a Cayouga Chief, having lost some of his Silver Works, applied to Col.o Johnson to have them replaced; who gave him a Pair of Arm Bands, a Pr. of Wrist Bands & a small round. Moon.

Saturday 29th.. Some Missisaugues fifteen in Number came in this Morning & received some Cloathing & a little Liquor.

The Cayouga Chiefs waited upon Col.o Johnson, and told him, that Tomorrow they would bring him the Number of their Warriors who were to go out in the Excursion that had been for some Time meditated. - Col.o Johnson replied he would be glad to have it, and wished every Thing might be got ready for their setting out, as soon as possible, as there was no Time to be lost. —

Monday 31st This Morning an Express arrived from Detroit. - Nothing extraordinary in that Quarter.

Last Night, one of the Chiefs of Canawagoros, called Hayantages, died.

Capt. Shinop came to inform Col. Johnson that one of his principal People was dead, and requested a black Stroud & Leggins for the Occasion, which was given him.

a Seneca of Canadasago was recommended by Major Butler, & received a Coat, & some Silver-Works.

Copy of a Letter, with a Speech from Mr. McKee, Dep. Agent of Indian Affairs, To Major De Peyster at Detroit, dated Upper Shawanese Villages Novr. 16th 1779. — Brot. by Express this Morning.

Sir, I have the Honor just to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favor the 13th Inst., with the Answer to the Chiefs & Warriors of these Several Villages, which I immediately communicated to them, endeavouring to convey to them in the most favorable Light your Wish to Support them with Troops when enabled thereto by the Commander in Chief, and as soon as the Indians of the lower Villages can be collected, shall proceed to Sandusky to deliver the Clothing Ammunition &ca. agreeable to your Directions. — I am to inform you that

the

133.

the present Occasion of my Writing is an important Discovery of the D signs of the Enemy by a Shawanese Indian, who attended, for this P pose, a Meeting held by the Enemy at Fort Pitt; the most materi Parts of which, I have collected in Writing, & herewith inclose. It was intended to have been kept a profound Secret to all but the Friends of that Interest. But the above Indian finding Means to bring off the Hatchet & Scalps has made a clear Discovery of the D terminations of the Cookshawing Delawares to aſsist the Virginians against them. It would have been also forwarded, but some suspec ted Chiefs are to be brought to an Explanation upon it, howeve it is their Desire that you should be as soon as poſsible be apprised of it, as well as all the Nations of your Children inhabiting th Lakes. — This Discovery undoubtedly points out more & more, the Neceſsity of Troops to support his Majesty's Interest in this Quarter, and a few to act in Conjunction with a good Body of Indians, in an Excursion towards Cookshawking would have a good e fect upon the greatest Part of the Delawares notwithstanding their Promises to the Rebels.

18th Was presented in Council, by two Delaware Meſsengers, three Calumets, two of which were sent to the Nations this Way from Post St. Vincent, by a french Officer, who informed them that he was come to speak to all Nations in the Name of their ancient Father the French King who had during the last War been thrown upon his Back by the English, but remembred, and hoped that they did not forget, to have told his Indian Children, that he would one Day or other rise to them again, and as that Time was now come, he made no Doubt they would listen with Attention to his Voice, and smoke with P sure his Pipe of Peace, untill they should hear further from him: he hoped th by to convince them that the English & Virginians would be subject to him, bei determined to occupy all Canada as formerly. And tho' the Virginians threatened extirpate all the Indians, he would not allow it: and was going shortly to the

Falls of this to meet three thousand Men assembling for that Purpose, which he would prevent, desiring them to have a good Heart, and repair to meet them at that Place, where they would find a White Flag hoisted as an Emblem of Regard to them, therefore to have no fear in going thither to receive from him three Boat Loads of Goods which he had already prepared for them at that Place. The other Calumet was delivered to the above Messenger by some Chiefs representing the Wabash Confederacy, letting them know that they were glad to see the Delawares take their ancient Fathers the French, again by the Hand; and their Kindness in promising to restore Peace to their Country, he hoped would be embraced by all Nations; and as to themselves, they were determined to mind their Hunting, and enjoy Peace as formerly; in Confirmation of which desired the Shawanese & Delawares to take their Pipe of Peace hoping it might incline them to do the same. A String of Wampum was delivered at the same Time in the Name of the Ottawas, expressing Sentiments to the same Purpose. — The Frenchman who held this Council at Post Vincent, came from New-Orleans, and is the Son of a French Partizan last War. — A Message was received from a Tribe of the Coochawking Delawares to Day, declaring their Intentions of holding fast their ancient Friendship with the several Nations to the Westward, and that a Deputation of their Chiefs were going to Fort Pitt, to desire the Virginians to desist from their Design of building a Fort at Coochawking; the Request that had been made for this Purpose was not general, and those who made it were considered as drunken Men, who knew not what they did. — The Return of those Indians from Fort Pitt, whither they are gone chiefly from Coochawking, will bring us some certain Information of the Enemy's Motions, having some Persons employed to wait at that Place for this End. But as the Season is so far advanced, it scarcely is probable they will attempt any thing till towards Spring, and then perhaps only against the Indians, for their Hopes of Success against Detroit must be nearly vanished. [The rest of the Letter is on private Business.] I have the Honor to be &c. (Signed) Alexr. McKee.

A True Copy (Signed) A S DePeyster, Majr.

Novr. 15th. 1779

Purport of a Speech deliver'd by the Delawares at a late Council held at Fort Pitt between the Rebels, Delawares, & some few Shawanese, who have been always attached to that Interest. When a Rebel Tomahawk was put into their Hands, with two Scalps taken at Canawago, one said to be a Six Nation, the other a Munsy.

Grand

135. Grand Children the Shawanese!

It is now several Years since the present War commenced, du
ring which Time we are satisfied the Maccochy Tribe of your Nation have adhered to us your gra
thers, for which Reason as you have begged us to take Pity on you, we spoke to our Br
theren the Big-Knives, and have prevailed upon them also to have Compassion on you. Th
Mark of Confidence & Regard they are now going to bestow upon you, we hope you will
shew yourselves worthy of, by renouncing all Intercourse & Amity with those foolish Tribes
have so imprudently disturbed the Peace & Tranquillity of our Country. We do this from t
Bottom of our Hearts, & you see us now holding our Brethren the Big-Knives Hatchet ag
them which we are determined to make further good Use of; therefore if you are inclined to sav
your Wives & Children now is your Time to appear like Men; we furnish you with the Means of defen
ing them, & in Reliance of your Sincerity we put this Hatchet into your Hands, with some S
taken by it from those you must now consider ~~as~~ your Enemies as well as ours. The Big-
Knives Interest we look upon as our own, & we have given up ourselves intirely to their Directio
They have promised to build a Fort immediately round our Village at Coshawking, & send four hun
Men to Garrison it, & act with us against the Enemy. The sooner you remove your Friends the better the
better; all beyond that must soon be involved in Ruin & Destruction; for so soon as our Fam
lies are secured they will feel the Weight of our Hatchet, & as to the few English at Detroit
who are unable to support their distracted Children, with the skulking six Stations; they
are destined to make Soup for us as soon as our Brethren the Big Knives rise
up against them. A Hatchet with 2 [illegible].

True Copy (Signed) A. S. De Peyster, Major.

~~Tuesday Feb.y 1st. The Cayongas came to Day & gave in a Return of 80 Warriors of eight different Tribes, [illegible] upon Service, and told Col.o Johnson they hoped he would not think it strange that there were no more, as many of these People were out a Hunting, some at Carleton Island, & others sick~~

Tuesday February 1st. The Cayongas requested a Meeting, at which was present,

Col.o Guy Johnson Sup.t
M.r Deace, Dep.y Agent
Cap.t Brant ---

Lieu.t Hillyer.
Lieu.t Lottrige
R. Cartwright Sec.y;

and being all assembled, Kingageghte their Speak

ad

135. Grand Children the Shawanese!

It is now several Years since the present War commenced, during which Time we are satisfied the Maquachy Tribe of your Nation have adhered to us your Grandfathers, for which Reason as you have begged us to take Pity on you, we spoke to our Brethren the Big-Knives, and have prevailed upon them also to have Compassion upon you; in Mark of Confidence & Regard they are now going to bestow upon you, we hope you will shew yourselves worthy of by renouncing all Intercourse & Amity with those foolish Tribes have so imprudently disturbed the Peace & Tranquillity of our Country. We do this from Bottom of our Hearts, & you see us now holding our Brethren the Big-Knives Hatchet a[illegible] them which we are determined to make further good Use of. Therefore if you are inclined to [illegible] your Wives & Children now is your Time to appear like Men; we furnish you with the Means of defending them, & in Reliance of your Sincerity we put this Hatchet into your Hands, with Confi[illegible] taken by it from those you must now consider as your Enemies as well as ours. The Big-Knives Interest we look upon as our own, ou[illegible] have given up ourselves intirely to their Direction. They have promised to build a Fort immediately around your Village at Coochawking, & send four hundred Men to Garrison it, & act with us against the Enemy. The sooner you remove your Friends to their Fort the better; all beyond that must soon be involved in Ruin & Destruction, for as soon as our Bro[illegible] are secured they will feel the Weight of our Hatchet, as do the few English at [illegible] who are unable to support their distracted Children, with the Shawanese [illegible] they are destined to make Soup for us as soon as our Brethren the Big-Knives rise up against them. A Hatchet with 2 Belts.

True Copy (Signed) A. S. DePeyster, Major.

~~Tuesday Feby 1st. The Cayougas came to Day of gar in a Return of 80 Warriors of eight different Tribes, ready to go upon Service, and told Col. Johnson they hoped he would not think it strange that there were no more, as many of those People were out a Hunting, some at Carleton Island, & others sick~~

Tuesday February 1st. The Cayougas requested a Meeting at which was present

Col. Guy Johnson Supt. }
Mr. Deace, Dep.y Agent }
Capt. Brant — — }

{ Lieut. Hillyer.
{ Lieut. Lottridge
{ R. Cartwright, Secy.

and being all assembled, Kingageghta their Spe addreſsed Colᵒ. Johnson as follows.

Brother Goragh Waraghquaderha!

We are now come to let you know the Number of our People who are preparing to go out upon Service; they amount to 88 and we hope you will not think it strange that there are no more as many are now out a Hunting, some at Carleton Island & others unwell: we expect to be joined by some others yet before we go, but this Number we are sure of. As our Hunting has been but indifferent for some Time past, we shall want Shoes & several other Neceſsaries to defend us from the Inclemency of the Weather, besides Snow-Shoes, Knives & Paint, which we wish to get as soon as poſsible, and when we are thus furnished & ready we shall let you know what Place we think it best to proceed against. They then gave in a Parcel of Sticks as a Return of their People, of 8 different Tribes amounting to 88.

Colᵒ. Johnson replied,

Brothers

I am glad you have

brought me the Number of your Party which I think a very good one considering that many of your Peop are absent. That you may lose no Time, as the Season is advancing, you shall immediately b furnished with such Things as are necessary, and I make no Doubt, but you will acquit yourselves, in this Affair, in such a Manner as will do you Honor; and I have only further to recommmend to you, to lay aside all little Jealousies and Animosities, which is now, more than ever necessary, and act as one Man. My Regar for the Honor & Interest of the Six Nations makes me sollicitous on this Head, and I hope, that you, the Chiefs, will impress this upon the minds of your People, as the surest Means to make them successful. — They were then dismissed with a little Liquor.

Soon after David Caraghqunty came in with the Tuskaroras of the Canasaragoe Village, now living am

the

Cayongas, who had been chosen by their People to be, the one a Sachem & the other their Chief Warrior to attend to their public Affairs. He spoke upon a Belt for this Purpose.

Col^o. Johnson said their Choice met with his approbation, shook Hands with them, & said he did not doubt but they would do their Duty, and attend to the public Business of their People; He also ordered them a Present a Hat &c, as a Token of his Regard. Their Names are Nekeawanda a Sachem, Atawanoge, Chief Warrior.

David also received an Order for necessaries for six Senecas who joined the Party.

Return of the Party to go out.

Cayongas - - - - - - -	88
Onandagoes, of the Eel Tribe - - - -	19
Mohocks, Aughquagoes, Awegoes, } Delawares &ca - - - - - - }	..65
Carachquunty & 6 Senecas - - - - -	7
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At a meeting of the Commissioners
of Indian Affairs for the Northern
Department at the City of Albany
the 8th Day of February 1780

Present General Schuyler President
Mr Douw
Mr Duane

General Schuyler laid before the Board Instructions from the honble Congress of the united States to this board respecting a Pacification with the Senecas Cayugas & ~~Onondas~~ onondagas — in case the same shall ~~should~~ be ~~sued~~ Supplicated for by those ~~Nations~~ Tribes in the words following (to wit) — insert the Instructions —

The same being taken into Consideration Resolved that it be humbly represented to the honble Congress as the Opinion of this Board that ~~an~~ a strict Adherence to the sixth Clause ~~which requires Hostages from the Enemy for their strict~~ faithful ~~observance of the Treaty~~ may be inexpedient; there being no ~~means~~ Measures to secure the persons of the Hostages but by close Imprisonment to which ~~they will not~~ claiming by their ~~having~~ usages no power over the Individuals of their Nations they probably will not on any Extremity Consent. That ~~it~~ independent of this Consideration it will appear to this Board that it will be more for the advantage of the

United

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

States to require instead of Hostages that a certain Number of the chief Warriors of each of the Hostile Tribes shall constantly serve with the Army of the United States which will engage those Tribes more absolutely in our Interest & be at least an equal Security for their Fidelity: That the honble Congress be requested to instruct the Board on this Subject without loss of Time as it is probable that those Tribes ~~will~~ may soon sue for Peace.

Resolved that it be humbly represented to the honble Congress that it is ~~indispe~~ necessary that the Board should be supplied with Money to defray the Expence of the expected Treaty & for ~~small~~ Presents to such the ~~Onondagas &~~ Oneidas & ~~Onondagas~~ Tuscaroras who ~~depend~~ have continued faithful to their Engagements with the united States under the most pressing Wants & Temptations.

General Schuyler also laid before the Board An Act of the Legislature of the State of New York Intitled An Act to appoint Commissioners to represent this State in any Treaty of Peace Pacification that may be had with any of the Nations of Indians therein mentioned; And informed the Board that the said Act had ~~been announced~~ communicated to him officially; And that a Copy thereof had also been transmitted by the Governor of New York to him as one of the Delegates of this State to the honorable Congress: And the said Act being taken into Consideration by this Board And no Instruction having been received from the honble Congress on the Subject matter thereof

Resolved that in case of

Proceedings of
Comr of Indian
affairs Feb 3
1780

Albany February 5th 1780

Sir

In a letter which I had the honor to address your Excellency on the 23d ulto I mentioned a business which promised a beneficial issue to these States but did not explain it as that letter was to be forwarded by a chance conveyance I beg leave therefore to do it in this.

Deeply Impressed Sir with a sense of the Extensive advantages which would probably result to the united States from a perfect and permanent reconciliation with an Enemy so formidable to an extensive and open frontier as fatal Experience has evinced the Indians to be; to whom distance of Situation seems no great Obstacle to prevent their Incursions; Reflecting with the most anxious concern on the desolation and variety of distress Incident to a Savage war; ~~[illegible]~~ Firmly believing that the greatly deranged State of the public

Finances would render it exceedingly difficult to procure the necessary supplies for that army only which must keep the Enemys force on the sea board in check; Certain that a Scarcity of Flour already existed in this quarter; doubtful whether detachments of sufficient force to protect the frontiers could be spared from our army ~~that~~ if the British should retain their then position; Aware of the difference incident on calling forth the Militia for the purpose; convinced that an obstacle of a very interesting importance would be removed if events should happily arise which would permit us to turn our attention to the reduction of Canada, or that of the Enemies Fortresses in the interior part of the Country; persuaded that no further offensive operations could be prosecuted against the barbarians with any probable prospect of adequate advantage; apprehensive that they might consider themselves without any alternative but that of recommencing hostilities; Attending the Effects of a consequent desperation on their part; I pursued such measures immediately on my arrival here as I conceived would Induce the Savages to peaceable Overtures without affording them the most distant Intimation that we were anxious for a reconciliation. In consequence some of the Mohawk Sachems who have continued to reside in their Village and whose civilized mode of life would render it extremely Irksome to them to remove from their habitations, which they especially dreaded should the other Indians continue their depredations, made application for permission to proceed to the Senecas &c and to invite them to a treaty which they wished might be held, assuring me that they would use that Influence which they knew they possessed to bring about a pacification adding that they firmly believed it would be acceded to. I answered without hesitation that as we had already repeatedly convened them for the purpose of Establishing and preserving a Lasting harmony, that as at every treaty they

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they had solemnly promised to Observe a Strict neutrality and had never even once fullfilled their engagements altho we had given the most Indubitable proofs of our friendly disposition, repeated Instances of which I enumerated; their proposition was utterly Inadmissable: I observed with satisfaction that a reply so decisive gave them much pain and distress nor did they fail to paint their uneasiness and the unhappy situation of the Hostile Tribes In very lively colours and Concluded with Intreating my Interposition in their favor at Congress; I answered that every application of mine would be fruitless unless the Indians at Enmity with us would sollicit an Accomodation, that whenever they seriously did that, I would Interest myself in their behalf and doubt not but that peace would be Granted them on Equitable Conditions. They then renewed their request for permission to proceed to the Sandusky and advise them of what had passed betwen them and me and to urge them former to the [illegible] reconciliation which they observed was the only means to prevent their Intire destruction. they showed them sealed letters for the Commanding officer at Niagara. Colo: Butler observed that I was on the point of sending these by a flag with some Canadians to request an Exchange of prisoners and they might if they wished to see their friends accompany them and that as they seemed anxious for a reconciliation they were at liberty if they chose to Communicate what I had said, They seemed Confident that the Indians would Eagerly embrace the occasion and Enter into a Negociation. they then proceeded on their journey as far as Oneida where they were detained by the Severe storms, which prevailed in the last month and were on the point of proceeding thence, when Colo Johnson's flag arrived which detained them untill any answer would be procured. Since which they have prosecuted their Journey with expectations considerably increased from Intelligence communicated to them by the Indians who were charged with Colo Johnson's

Dispatch

Having on the 3d Instant convened a board of commissioners I laid before it Gen Lincolns Letter containing the articles to be stipulated with the Indians should a treaty take place, upon which the board came to the following Resolutions. "That it be humbly represented "to the Honorable Congress as the opinion of this "board that a strict adherence to the sixth "clause may be inexpedient there being no "means to secure the persons of the hostages but "by close imprisonment & which claiming by "their usages no power over the individuals of "their nations they will not probably on any extremity con"-sent to give hostages. That independant of this "consideration it appears to this board it will be "more for the advantage of the United States "to require instead of hostages that a certain "number of the chief warriors of each of the "hostile tribes should constantly serve with the "Army of the United States as that will engage "their tribes more effectually in our interests

" And be at least an Equal Security for their
" Fidelity. That the Honorable Congreſs be intreat-
" =ed to Instruct the board on this Subject
" without Loſs of time as it is probable that
" those tribes may soon sue for peace;

"That it be humbly represented to the
" Honorable Congreſs that it is neceſsary the
" board should be supplied with money to defray
" the Expence of the expected treaty and for
" Presents to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras who
" have continued faithful to their Engagements
" under the most preſsing wants and
" Temptations"_

I have the honor to be with
Great respect and Esteem

Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient Humble Servt
Ph: Schuyler

His Excellency Samuel Huntington Esqr &c

Letter from John [illegible]

Dated Feb 15th 1780—

Read 18th Feby 1780—

Referred to the Board of War.

At a Meeting of the Commiss.rs of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department at the City of Albany the 9th Day of February 1780

Present Mr Douw } Commiss.rs
Mr Duane

Col. Van Schaick Commanding Officer

Peter or Grasshopper } Oneida Sachems
Peter
Sawante
Col. Louis } principal warriors
Col. Hans Jurry
Blacksmith
Sawtis
And several other Friendly Indians to the Number of

After the usual Ceremony of bidding them welcome Grasshopper their Speaker addressed the Commissioners as follows —

Brothers ~~we they are~~

We are Glad to meet you at this Council fire which was kindled up in Peace. We are two Nations Oneidas & Tuscaroras present & some other Brethren. ~~That we~~ the Commissioners have sent some of the[ir] Nation Oneidas & of the Mohawks to Niagara on Business

Brothers after their ~~the~~ Flag arrived at Fort Schuyler ~~they~~ we held a long Council & talked over the Business about carrying Letters to Niagara & making Peace with such of the Enemy whose Hearts might be turned towards us. That Council pitched upon me (the Speaker) & Peter the Minister to accompany the Flag but ~~but he the Speaker~~ I was desired not to go but stay at home & take care of the Castles & another Oneida Sconondo was appointed in my ~~his~~ place: ~~But~~ Peter declared that he did not expect to be requested to go to his Enemies. It was a hard Request he said but that he would do every thing for the good of his Country & therefore he agreed to go & to do his best. I (The Speaker) would have gone having great Inclination had not it been thought

Pemo. but on Account of the Illness in ~~his~~ of my Knees & for the Sake of taking Care of the Castle that ~~he~~ should Sconondo should go in ~~his~~ my place. I the hopes ~~we~~ the Commissioners will not ~~tak~~ therefore take it amiss that he I did not go with the Flag.

~~That~~ Peter declared promised that he would do his best to bring the Enemy to a peace & did not doubt of Success.

Brothers! ~~That~~ when the Messengers came to the Oneida Country ~~they~~ we held another Council with the Messengers: And gave them advice what to say: that they should remind the Enemy Indians how great they were, while they held fast of the Covenant Chain ~~when they were friends~~ that they could then light their Council fire in any part of the Continent. That now they had lost their Country by Joining the King: and were suffering ~~suffer~~ the greatest Hardships. That they ought still have an opportunity of making peace & returning to their Country. That they advised them to embrace it for the sake of their wives & children and it would be the last. That the Messengers should take Care & act wisely. And not to be afraid but to speak their minds fully & openly at the Council tell them even if any of the King's people were there; for it was ~~those people~~ the King who had brought them into all their troubles. And that the Council of Oneida then gave the Messengers a Belt.

The Sachems having finished what they had to say to the Messengers the Warriors of the Oneidas spoke & desired them to tell the Warriors ~~of the Enemy Indians~~ with that had joined the Enemy that they ~~formed~~ were distressed & had no ho ~~home~~. That they ~~were~~ would finally be destroyed. That the war had already lasted five years & they saw what the Americans were able to do. That they should make peace for the sake of their wives & children & that this would be the last opportunity. That it was the King's fault they had taken up the Hatchet; & the Reason of it was ~~that~~ because the King was very Rich. That they must now lay down the Hatchet. It was high time—. Gave the Messengers a Belt.

That the women spoke & desired the chief warriors to do
The Governess his best to advise the Enemy Indians to peace. That they the women brought forth the Men. That the two Enemy Warriors in the Interest of the Enemy should ~~endeavour~~ endeavour to induce to their Country, & then they would be able to get more men. That it would be a

great thing if they should be able to recover & repossess their Lands:

& gave a Belt to the Messengers

That when the Messengers were going off the Council gave them a short Charge, that they should tell the Indians of the more Western ~~nations~~ that ~~it~~ As they had still now an opportunity of repossessing their Country they should immediately make peace & put an End to their sufferings by Joining the Americans & becoming friendly to them. That they should tell the Messengers for the King that they had nothing to say there. That they would ~~soon~~ Leave the Country: & that ~~peace~~ the Indians must be in peace with the Americans. That they entreated the Messengers if Peace was agreed to, to bring some of the Enemy ~~the~~ Indians with them to this place to conclude a peace

Gave the Messengers a white Belt

Brothers. That they need not to be afraid for they should not be deceived for that we were not like them.

Brothers ~~That~~ the two Cayugas arrived at Oneida & informed that the Senecas & the Enemy Indians had hindered a [illegible] Cagrawegaron (the Village of the Tuscaroras, between the Genesee & Niagara) & he supposed the Interview between them & the Messengers will be held there at that place.

~~He~~ This is all we have to relate concerning the Messengers.

Brothers. We have something more to say. We are in great Trouble & distress last fall hearing the Enemy with Guy Johnson were at Oswego. & we expected the first attacks would have been made upon us. We were at that time weak & were obliged to bury our Effects. If these Messengers of peace do not ~~succeeded~~ succeed we shall again be exposed to our Enemies in the Spring & ~~we~~ shall not dare to plant in our own Country: We therefore desire that you will ~~borrow~~ lend us a piece of Land for a year or two where we may plant & live. till we can return in Safety

To our own Country. We have considered it well; & request an Answer.

Brother You know that the King sends Messengers to All the Indians for their Assistance. We have friends at Penobscot who have [illegible]omised to assist us: & if the peace should not take place we inten[illegible] to sen[illegible] Belts & put the Hatchet in their Hands to assist us against our Enemies. We request you to give us Wampum for Belts on this Occasion as we have none. We intend to send Lokes & others as our Messengers to the Penobscots..

Blebeck an Oneida Chief informs the Commissioners that he has a Son taken prisoner the [illegible] last fall who is now confined at Niagara.. He produces an order from General Sullivan in his favour & [illegible] on [illegible] for 100 Silver Dollars for his extraordinary good Services to the Army [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~

Dated Head Quarters Kanadasega Sept. 20th 1779.

Col. Hans Jury produces Mr Kirkland's receipt dated the 10 March 1778 for a Silver Watch to get exchanged for him & several [illegible] May if they did not agree upon a price.

369:12
1/2
778
184 1/2
1/2
964

Brother. You desired us to come down & take charge of the Onondaga & Cayuga prisoners. We have neither Cloath nor provisions for them & they might run away & we be blamed which is the Reason we did not comply with your Request. The Cayuga Squaw & two Children are gone to Canajoharie where some of their people [illegible].. That the rest are among them & the Tuscaroras & they hope now the Commissrs will consider them on Account of the scarcity of Cloaths & provisions.

Gave a String of Wampum on this last Article.

That Hans Jury cant live in peace at the Upper Castle. Peter Schuyler George Harkemer & [illegible] Hans threaten him that [illegible] the Comrs will turn him off in the Spring. He is very uneasy; & hopes the Commrs will consider of it. Dance this Eveng & Gave [illegible] to [illegible].

9 Febry 1780

From — Entered 1779
Col. Guy Johnson —
at Niagara — of 21st Novem.r
Rec.d 5.th December

Copy

B
Enc. fol. 6

(Copy)

Quebec Feby 10th 1780

Sir

I have received your Letters of the 12th & 21st November covering a State of your Department, and the Substance of Proceedings at a Council held at Niagara the 31st October, and the answer of the Five Nations to your proposal of sending as many of them as could be spared to this Province for the Winter, my motive for which I need not repeat to you. Finding that Colonel Bolton has a prospect of getting through the Winter, without being distreſsed for Provisions, I am pleased that the Indians declined coming down, as well for the Political reasons advanced by them, as because they will be in readineſs for an early movement that may be found neceſsary in the Spring. You will be pleased to acquaint them, that nothing but my anxiety for their happineſs, and our mutual Safety could have induced me to propose to them leaving their Country in its present Situation, and that while I feel much for what they, and their Fathers Warriors may suffer from a Scarcity of Provisions I at the same time highly applaud the Firmneſs, good Policy, and persevering attatchment to their Great Father, manifested by their determination. Aſsure them that he will never forsake them, and that I have hitherto, and always shall afford them every aſsistance and protection in my Power. They are but little acquainted with the difficulties attending the Transport of Neceſsaries, and the amazing quantities of Provisions consumed by them, and they (and indeed many who ought to know better) talk of sending up Reinforcements, taking Post &c. without reflecting by what means Troops are to be supported. Being obliged to recall the trifling detatchment sent up last Year, should open their Eyes to the Obstacles that stand in the way of doing, what no person can be ignorant would be adviseable. And it is neceſsary that much Pains should be taken to make the intelligent

Colonel Johnson

part of them sensible of these matters. I hope however that it will be in my power to effect something advantageous for them in the course of the ensuing Summer. I have directed that a Quantity of Indian Corn be provided in order to be sent up by the First Vessel, which, with what can be saved at Niagara, I would have distributed among those Indians who are desirous of settling upon the Genessée River — I have long thought it the most advantageous Situation for them, Encourage them to settle there, & acquaint them that as soon as Circumstances will afford me time, I shall give them such assistance in establishing themselves, as will put it out of the power of their Enemies to hurt them, and convince them of their Fathers Care and Anxiety for their Happiness.

I hope you have been able to effect your intentions of keeping out Scouts upon the Frontiers, as well to keep them in Alarm, as to save your Provision Store. The large Party you proposed sending out about the end of December will probably do something handsome.

I shall this week dispatch a Flag for the purpose of negociating the Exchange of Mrs Butler and Family for that of Mrs Campbell and the Moores. I do not mean that a General Exchange should take place of the Prisoners taken by the Indians, as proposed by Mr Schuyler, I abhor the intercourse, but as Major Butler seems so anxious, I wish to make him easy — the result will be made known to Colonel Bolton, which you will act in Consequence of.

From Colonel Bolton's and Major Butler's uniform Zeal and attention to the Service, I was satisfied they would afford you every assistance in their power — I am happy they have verified my Opinion of them to you — and with your united endeavours, as much as can be done with Indians will be effected, and I make no doubt will be effected

Some time ago Captain Fraser desired to know, if the expences attending the Miſsiſsagues, who resort, upon Service, to Carleton Island, were to be included in the Account of the Six Nation Department, or that of Canada, considering them as formerly belonging to the latter — As numbers of that Nation resort to Niagara and are sent upon Service along with the Six Nations, and consequently must be supplied there to make any distinction would only serve to complicate Accounts, therefore you will continue to comprehend them in yours, taking every precaution to prevent Imposition on their Part, by receiving presents at both places, and those at Carleton Island will, in the like manner be considered of Canada.

I am &c. /Signed/ Fred: Haldimand

(Copy) Entered 1780

To Col. Guy Johnson at
Niagara — of 10th. Febry —

Extract
Entd. fol. 61 —

Copie

Quebec 10th February 1780.

Sir

Seeing Your Letter addreſsed to — Lord George Germain by His Majestys Service, and Expecting all Letters to the Kings Ministers upon the Public Buſineſs of the Several Departments under My Command, to be Sent to me open, I thought it Neceſsary that I Should be acquainted with its Contents, I therefore opened it, and Must Confeſs I was More Surprised than I can well Expreſs, to find that an Officer at the Head of a Department under My Command Should So far forget his duty, as to propose to the Kings Ministers, Schemes for Raising Corps in, and upon the Frontiers of the Province of which I am Governor, & to Serve in an army of Which I am Commander in Chief, but Still — more So. that he Should venture to Mislead the Minister by Recommending as an Eligible Measure, What he ought to know is impoſsible to accomplish — You have Seen that Notwithstanding the Sums that have been expended for the Encouragement & Support of Colonists taking refuge in this Province, that Sir John Johnson, altho impowerd to Raise two Battalions, yet notwithstanding his Interests in the Country, & his indefatigable endeavours to raise men, he has not been able in the Course of 2 Years to Compleat the first, — You Must know that Lieut. Col. McLean, has not been More Succeſsfull, and You are upon the Spot, Where every Pains have been taken by Major Butler, to Compleat 8 Companies of able Bodied Men from below,

and

Col: Johnson

Saturday 12th. This Morning some Messisaugues came & spoke with Col. Johnson, telling him they had been out with Col. Butler last Year, & hoped he would take the same Care of them as the late Sr. Wm Johnson had done who met them first at this Place. They requested he would give them a little Liquor & some Cloathing, & as they had some Skins to trade, desired he would not let them be imposed upon, & would permit them to carry some Rum with them when they were going away. All which was complied with, & Col. Johnson told them he should always take proper Notice of them so long as they deserved it.

In the Afternoon Lt. Clement set off for Carachalea in Order to purchase some Cattle; should there be none to be had he is to proceed with Capt. Brant & Party.

About Midnight Col. Johnson received the following Letter from Captn. Brant. Cranberry Swamp Feb. 11/12th 1780.

Sir,

This is to acquaint you that I met the four Rebel Indians here which we expected. I stopt here on Purpose to detain these Indians in Order to give you timely Notice, because if I did not stop the Fellows they might be talking with some of the Indians at your Place. -- I told you before that if I should meet these People I couldn't spare them to come with them to Niagara, so they will go by themselves from here Tomorrow, All I would say to you concerning them is, to pretend to be friendly with them at first before those Indians who are going with me to War, I think after we are all gone from Niagara then you may do what you think proper.

I am &c,

To Col. Johnson

(Signed) Jos. Brant. --

Sunday 13th. In Consequence of the above Letter Col. Johns sent off Capt. Powel with 2 Foresters & four Indians, in Que of these Messengers from the Rebels, with Orders to brin them immediately to him, & not to suffer them to ta at any of the Indian Huts by the Way. He came in with them about Noon, two of them are Mohawks the one called Tigoransera alias Little Abraham, the other Thaquandahoojie alias White Hans; the others are an Oneyda called Skanondong, and an Aughquaga called Good Gatt. &c

1. Copy of Proceedings with four Rebel Indians who came to hold a Meeting with the Chiefs of the Six Nations —

Niagara Feby. 12th. 1780

Late at Night Col. Johnson received a Note from Capt. Brant, who had set off the Day before with a large Party, informing him that he had met with four Rebel Indians, Tegoransera alias little Abraham & Unaquandahoojie alias White Hans, Mohawks the only disaffected Persons of that Nation, and Skanandong & Orandagats, Oneydas, and that he should detain them till Col. Johnson could be notified of their Approach.

Sunday 13th. – This Morning Col. Johnson despatched Officer & some Men in Quest of the Rebel Indians with Orders to bring them immediately to him but suffer them to stop at any of the Indian Huts by the Way. The Officer returned with them about Noon, and Col. Johnson in the Presence of Major Lernoult & the Officers of the Department, tells them, that he little expected, when he left them, they in Violation of all their Promises & Engagements they would have acted as they had done, and differ so widely from the Rest of the Indian Confederacy that such a Conduct appeared exceedingly strange to him especially in the Mohawks, whose Nation was, and ever had been particularly attached to the British Government with which all their Treaties & Engagements had been made.

Little Abraham answered for himself & the rest, that they wished to live in Peace, and had therefore taken Part with neither Side in the Dispute but had observed a strict Neuterality. – He then delivered the Letter No. 2 in answer to No. 1 written in Consequence of one addreſsed to Major Butler: both the Letters are annexed.

After having read the Letter, Colo. Johnson asked them whether they had come merely to convey him this Letter. – They said no: that it was only Part of their Errand, and that they came to hold a Meeting with the Six Nations. – He then asked by whom they were sent, or in whose Name they intended to hold the Meeting. – They answered they were come of their own Accord, and to hold the Meeting in their own Name. Colo. Johnson told them he did not imagine the Indians would be much pleased to see People who had taken Part with their Enemies, & pursued a Conduct so different from all the Rest of the Confederacy; and that he had sent a Guard to conduct them in, for Fear they should feel the Effects of that Resentment which their Behavior must have excited in the Indians now at this Place.

Being asked if they had no other Letters they produced several for Loyalists &ca from their

Families among the Rebels, of no Consequence.

Colo. Johnson then sent for Aaron the Mohawk Chief, and before them gave him a particular Account of every Thing they had said as above; observing that he and the other Chiefs well knew how little Attention was due to any Thing that People who had behaved as they had done could say; and that at best it would be only some Story to blind & deceive them; and thinking it improper that they should be allowed free Intercourse with the other Indians, in which he was joined by Col. Bolton; Quarters were provided for them in the Fort to which they were removed in the Evening. Previous to their Going they told Colo. Johnson they meant to do Nothing in Private, but would speak what they had to say to the Chiefs in his Presence. He told them he should always be ready to hear any Thing they had to say to him, & sent an Officer to conduct them to their Quarters.

Monday 14th. Colo. Johnson sent for Sayangaraghta the Seneca Chief to the Indian Camp, and after acquainting him with every Thing necessary for his Information, desired to know how he thought they should proceed with these Rebel Indians, and said he should be glad to know the Sentiments of the Rest of the Chiefs upon that Head. Sayangaraghta undertook to consult them upon it, and promised to let Colo. Johnson know their Opinions Tomorrow. In the mean Time it was thought proper to send for, and examine, the Rebel Indians separately, which was accordingly done in the Afternoon, in the Presence of Sayangaraghta. What they said at this Examination is the same, in every Thing material, with what they delivered in their Speeches to the Chiefs at the public Meeting following.

Thursday 17th. The Chiefs had resolved to give the Rebel Indians a hearing but had been so employed in fitting out Parties that they could not meet them till to Day. In the Afternoon they aſsembled at Colo. Johnsons, and the four Rebel Indians were sent for from the Fort.

Present at the Meeting.

Colo. Johnson Supt.
Major Butler } Depy. Agents
Mr. Dease }
Captn. Hare
Captn. Powel
Captn. Johnston
Lieut. Hyltier

Lieut. Lottrige
Lieut. Docksteder
Lieut. Krysler
Lieut. Johnston
Richd. Cartwright as Secy.
Lewis Clement } Interprs.
Nichs. Stevens }

BRITISH MUSEUM

When they were come & seated, it was signified to them that they might now deliver what they had to say. Accordingly Abraham the Mohawk got up, and first addreſsed himself to Colo. Johnson as follows.

Brother Gorah Uraghquaderha!

We by this Belt entreat that you will give us a patient Hearing while we addreſs ourselves to our Brethern of the Six Nations, on what we think nearly concerns their Interest and Welfare.

Gave a Belt.

He then addreſsed himself to the Chiefs in the Name of the Sachems, mentioning each Nation in their Order according to their usual Forms.

Brothers!

You have already heard what I have said to your Superintendant in order to make his Mind easy, and I shall now proceed to speak to you about your present Situation in his Presence, which we hope he will have no Objections to.

Brothers!

We have often observed to you that it was not the Buſineſs of us Indians to take Part in any Quarrels between the White-People, as they are of one Flesh and Blood, and their Affairs do not concern us. This has often been told you as well, formerly by Government, as since by the Rebels, who desired Nothing but that you would be neuter. If you had observed this prudent Conduct, you would not have been obliged to leave your Country, and abandon those Habitations which must have been so dear to you. The disagreeable Situation which a contrary Behaviour has brought you to, has affected us much, and induced us to come hither at this Time, and we dare say your Superintendant must be also affected at it. — We are now come once more to desire you to lay down your Arms, and be neuter, in which Case we can aſsure you, that the Rebels will allow you to return, and enjoy your Lands & Villages again in Peace & Security. — We the Mohawks & Oneydas, the Heads of the Confederacy while undivided, have remained neuter as we said we would, and we entreat you to accept of this Offer, (as perhaps it is the last that will be made you) and return again to your former Habitations, that the Five Nations may by this Means, be once more what they have been, and that we may again see the Smoke arising from those Villages which are now desolate and abandoned.

Gave a white Belt with 13 Squares.

Agorandajats then got up, and spoke in the Name of the Warriors.

Brothers!

We approve very much of what our Uncles the Sachems have said, which we beg you to hearken to and consider, as the Great Spirit loves People who will attend to good Advice. We hope you will lay down your Arms and remain neuter, as it is not our Busineſs to interfere in the Quarrels of other People, and besides you see that you cannot be supported, and that no other Nations of Indians act as you have done.

Gave a Belt.

He then delivered another Speech in the Name of the Women, to the Women of the Six Nations, desiring them to use their Influence over the Warriors, to make them comply with the Offer now made them.

Gave a large white Belt with black Lozeng

Abraham then got up, and spoke again as follows.

Brothers!

Being grieved at your distrest Situation, we went down to Philadelphea, and there proposed to 66 Principle Men assembled at that Place, that they should allow you to return & settle again in your Country, on Condition that you lay down your Arms, and remain neuter. They readily complied with our Request and said it was what they had several Times proposed without Effect; they desired us to lose no Time to acquaint you with it, and to desire you to come down as soon as possible if you approve of it: and even though you should not, if any of your Chiefs will come down and speak to them, they promise they shall not be hurt, or detained against their Will.

Gave a white Belt with 4 black Squa

After he had ended, Colo. Johnson told them, that, agreeable to their Belt he had permitted them to deliver what they had to say, that the Six Nations might have a free Opportunity to answer them, but as he could not take a Belt from People of their Character, he must return theirs, and threw it towards them with Contempt.

Sayangaraghta then told them, he and the other Chiefs had attended to what they had said, and would give them an Answer when they had properly considered of it. And Liquor being brought, he drank to the Health of the other Indians, omitting the four Rebels as a Mark of his Contempt, & the Meeting broke up.

riday 18th. The Indians came from their Camp to answer the

Rebel Indians, and after some Conversation with Colo. Johnson and Major Butler communicated the Substance of what they intended to say which was much approved of by Colo. Johnson, & accordingly they all aſsembled at his Quarters in the Evening.

Present.

Colo. Johnson & Supt.
Mr. Dease, Depy. Agent
Captain Powel
Lieut. Lottrege
Lieut. Docksteder

Lieut. Krysler
Lieut. Younge
Lieut. Johnston
Richd. Cartwright as Secy.
Lewis Clement } Interprs.
Nichs. Stevens }

The Rebel Indians were sent for from the Fort and Sayangaraghta first addreſsed himself to them as follows.

Mohawks & Oneydas!

We have considered what you said Yesterday, and think it Insolence in such an inconsiderable People as you are to tell us what we are to do, or to say to us we ought to build or to settle at this or the other Place: it is great Presumption in you to pretend to dictate to the Six Nations. We have Lands enough & shall choose out such Places as we think Proper to settle & reside at.

Sayangaraghta then sat down & Aaron the Mohawk Chief proceeded.

We the Mohawks, Part of the Oneydas, the Onandagoes, Senecas, Cayougas, Tuskarroras, Nanticokes, Shawanese & Delawares, with our Superintendant now here aſsembled, tell you that we will take no Notice of your Meſsage; and think it the highest Presumption in such a handful as you, who are merely a few Individuals, to offer to direct our Conduct. Our first Engagements were entered into with our Father the great King and his Officers, and we have kept up to them from the Beginning as we always mean to do, and you are mistaken when you say that we stand alone, for our Friends are many, and all the Nations from Canada to the remotest Parts of the West are our Confederates, who follow our Example, and are engaged in the same Cause with us. We have no Reason to be ashamed of what we have done; we have acted agreeable to our Treaties & Engagements with our Father the King, with whom our Ancestors have for many Ages been connected, and let what will happen we shall never be ashamed to shew our Faces, for we have not been Deceivers. Even suppose the Rebels should get the better of us it will not be in the Power of our Contemporaries or our Posterity to reproach us or to say that we acted wrong: but should the Rebels be overcome, how will you be able to look any Person in the Face; must you not hide your Heads after acting as you have done, in Violation of your most solemn Engagements, and in Opposition to the Rest of the Confederacy. You Children, you say you come for the Sake of Peace & Quietneſs, and for the Good of the Six Nations, but at the same Time bring a false Heart & a flattering Tongue to breed Confusion amongst us. You say you are Neuters, that you take Part with neither Side, that you love both the King & Congreſs and would have us do the same: but it is false that you have been neuter. Have you not taken Prisoners and Scalps at Oswegatchie? Did you not fight against us at Fort Stanwix? Did you not go out to War against the Kings People at Saratoga, the Highlands and other Places? And did not some of you even join the Rebels who invaded our Country and aſsist them to destroy us? And yet you have the Aſsurance to come, while the Hatchet you employed against us is yet in your Hands, and tell us that you have a great Regard for our Peace & Welfare. Deceitful Set! You tell us Nothing of these shameful Things which you have done, but boast of your good Behaviour. If you had acknowledged your Faults, if you had asked Pardon for them & promised to behave better for the future, perhaps we might have taken some Notice of what you said, & recommended you to Favor: but as it appears that you only come to disturb & divide us the Six Nations, who have all along & particularly for these last four Years, acted as steady & zealous Friends to the King, we shall take no further Notice of you or your Meſsage. — You imagine you are acting properly, but you deceive yourselves, and you attempt to deceive us. You are despised & suspected on both Sides, and your Brothers the Rebels when they send you on their Errands, keep a watchful Eye over you, and have their Hatchet lifted up against you, ready to strike it into your Heads, if you do not act in everything just as they would have you; & the only Reason why they shew you any Favor is, because you are mean enough to serve them as Spies upon us. But we do not act in this Manner, neither are we treated like you. We serve our Father the King faithfully, & do not get even an ill Look from any of his People, but are all of one Heart and one Mind. This is all we have to say to you, but you must not think of being dismissed yet: we have several Parties lately gone to War, and if we were to let you go now, we know you would run and acquaint Schuyler of them, in Order to shew what useful Spies you are. If we let you go at all, we shall let you know when we think it proper you should. &c. There, take your Belts again as we shall pay no Regard to them.

Gave back all their Belts. —

Colo. Johnson & the Chiefs then retired & the Meeting broke up. —

Extract from the Records examined and compared

Richd. Cartwright as Secy.

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because if I did not stop the Fellows they might be tarrying with some of the [illegible] at your Place.—I told you before that if I should meet these People I shouldn't spare them to come with them to Niagara, so they will go by themselves from here Tomorrow, all I would beg of you concerning them is, to pretend to be friendly with them at first before those Indians who are going with me to War, I think after we are all gone from Niagara then you may do what you think proper.

I am &c,

To Colo. Johnson

(Signed) Jos. Brant.—

Sunday 13th.— In Consequence of the above Letter Colo. John sent off Capt. Powel with 2 Privates & four Indians, in Se of these Messengers from the Rebels, with orders to bring them immediately to him, & not to suffer them to stop at any of the Indian Huts by the Way. He came in with them about Noon, two of them are Mohawks the one called Tigoransera alias Little Abraham, the other Theaquandahogie alias White Hans; the others are an Oneyda called Skanondaig, and an Onoghquagey called [illegible]

Col.o Johnson in Presence of Major Lernoult, & the Officers of the Department told them, that when he left them he did not expect that in Violation of all their Promises & Engagements they would have acted the Part they had done, and differ so widely from the Rest of the Indian Confederacy: that it appeared exceedingly strange to him, especially in the Mohawks, whose Nation was, and ever had been particularly attached to the British Government, with which all Their Treaties & Engagements had been made.

Little Abraham answered, for himself & the Rest that they wished to live in Peace, and had not taken Part with either Side in the Dispute, but had observed a strict Neutrality. - He then delivered the following Letter from Mr. Schuyler.

Albany Jan.y 23.d 1780

Sir,

Your Dispatch of the 7th Dec.r last was delivered to me this Morning.

The Address, as far as it concerns myself, I should have considered with perfect Indifference. - To the sovereign

Authority of the united States, whose Officer I have the Hon to be, it is disrespectful, and Nothing but the Cause of Humanity could have justified me in breaking its Seal.

The Indians who have made War on these States in Violation of their most solemn Treaties, are very far from deserving the Encomiums you hazard in their Favor. — They have, not it is true, destroyed or carried away all th Inhabitants who have had the Misfortune to fall in their Hands; but that after the unexampled Ravage and Barbarities they have, without Provocation, perpetrated, an Officer in high Confidence of what you are pleased to term a generous Nation, should speak of the Clemency & Tenderness of those Indians is not a little surprising! You will pardon a Reflection which you have drawn forth by awakening a Sense of Calamities never to be remembred without Horror. — I do n mean to enter into Altercation.

On what Principle it is that the Indians expec an equivalent for any of the Citizens of these States whom they did not carry into Captivity, I am ignorant, and you have not been pleased to explain. —

Some of the unhappy Sufferers at Cherry Valley were left there by the commanding Officer of the Party who burned that Village, and an equivalent was afterwards claimed for them by Capt. Butler in your Service. — Such a Claim could not have been supported on any Principle whatever. — Unused to Favor or Clemency from our Enemies, the Officer commanding in this Department, did not avail himself of the obvious Objections to this Claim, but as I am informed, complied with it on the first Application. — An equal Number of Persons residing here, and whose Relations had removed to Canada, had Permission to retire thither; many have availed themselves of the Indulgence, and others who set out late in the Season on their Journey, were retarded only by the Severity of the Weather. — The Indians expect nevertheless that their People should be restored to them, as a condition of their continuing that Humanity towards their Prisoners which you seem to believe they have generally exercised. — You Sir, will do well to put them in mind of the Treatment the Mohawks ~~experienced~~ received at our Hands, when they were seized near Lake George

in the very Act of joining what was since your Army. —
Let them also be reminded that the same Lenity and
Forbearance have been experienced by such of the
necas, Cayougas, & Onandagas as were in our Pow
and that we have even permitted the Cayougas to
whom you particularly refer, to proceed as far as Oneyde,
in the Prospect that the Exchange I had proposed in my
last Letter to Colo. Butler would have been accomplis
ed. — This is a Lesson which should be taught them, f
the Honor of the Nation for whose Generosity you are an
Advocate, and for the Sake of that Humanity you
seem to approve. While they act under your Supe
intendance, every private and national Conside
ation calls upon you to inculcate Principles of
manity and to restrain them from Cruelties to Prison
ers. It is not from any Dread of their Power that
these Suggestions are dictated. The Barbarities th
may commit upon Individuals will be deplored
and condemned by all Mankind, and they hav
a recent Proof that the just Resentment of an inju
red People can reach the most remote Corners of

their

of their Wilderneſs.

Mrs Butler will be permitted to proceed to Canada with her Family whenever proper Aſsurances are given that Mrs Campbell & others will have the like Indulgence.

Two of the Mrs McDonalds & Mrs Fraser have solicited to return to New York or Canada with their Families. Their Wish will be complied with, whenever I am advised that Families who have been carried into Captivity from these States will be liberated.

I am Sir

Your most obedient Servant.

(Signed) Ph. Schuyler President of
the Board of Commiſsioners for
Indian Affairs in the Northern
Department —

Colo. Guy Johnson &ca.

After having read the Letter, Colo. Johnson asked them whether they had come merely to convey him this Letter. — They said no, that was only Part of their Errand, and that they came to hold a Meeting with the Six Nations. — He then asked by whom they were sent, or in whose

157 where they intended to hold the Meeting. They answered they had come of their own Accord ~~for that End~~, & to hold the Meeting in their own Name. Col° Johnson told them he did not imagine the Indians would be much pleased to see People who had taken Part with their Enemies, & pursue a Conduct so different from all the Rest of the Confederacy; and that he had sent ~~a~~ Guard to conduct them in for Fear they should feel the Effects of that Resentment their Behavior must have excited in the Indians at this Place.

They were then asked if they had no other Letters, upon which they produced several to Loyalists here from their Families among the Rebels, of no Consequence.

Col° Johnson then sent for Aaron the Mohawk Chief & before them gave him a particular Account of every Thing they had said as above, ~~adding~~ observing that he & the other Chiefs well knew how little Attention was due to any Thing that People who had behaved as they had done could say, & that at best it would be only some Story to blind & deceive them.

Col° Johnson ~~& Col° Butler~~ thinking it improper that they should be allowed free Intercourse with the other Indians, in which he was joined by [illegible]

Quarters were provided for them in the ~~Evening~~ Fort to which they were removed in the Evening. Previous to their going they told Col. Johnson they meant to do Nothing in private, but would speak what they had to say to the Chiefs in his Presence. He told them he should always be ready to hear ~~what~~ any Thing they had to say to him & sent Mr. Stringe to conduct them to their Quarters.

Monday 14th. Col. Johnson sent for the [illegible] Chief to the Indians Sayengaraghta, and after acquainting him with every Thing ~~necessary for his~~ Information ~~and [illegible]~~ desired to hear his thoughts [illegible] ~~[illegible] should proceed with these Rebel Indians and if it would not be proper to hear what they had to say~~ & said he should be glad to know the Sentiments of the rest of the Chiefs upon that Head. Sayengaraghta undertook to consult them upon it, & promised to let Col. Johnson know their Opinions Tomorrow.

In the Afternoon it was thought best to speak to the Rebel Indians separately & hear how their Stories would correspond. Accordingly Skanondong the Oneyda was sent for, and examined by Sayengaraghta, who told him he wished to hear what they had to say before they came to a publick

150

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159 public Meeting. The Oneyda said, their Regard for the Co
federacy had induced them to undertake this Journey; th
seeing the deplorable Situation to which the Six Nation
were reduced by their imprudent Attachment to the K
they came to propose to them to return & settle again in th
own Country & keep themselves Quiet: that they had Reason
to believe the Rebels would be satisfied with this, if done
without further Delay, and that it appeared to them the
only Means to escape that Destruction with which th
were threatened. — Sayangaraghta replied with Indignatio
that their past Conduct had shown what Regard they ha
for the Six Nations; that they had promised to give them
Notice of the Rebels coming into their Country, but which
they were also bound to do, as being the Door of the Confeder
cy in that Quarter, but so far from doing this, they ha
encouraged their Enemies, & some of them even joined the
Army to lay waste their Country, and that they were
therefore more to be blamed for the Mischief that w
done than the Rebels. — The other endeavoured to ex
cuse himself by telling him that General Sullivan ha
sent to them from Tioga to come & join him & that he

would be satisfied if twenty of them would go with him on the Expedition: this they refused to do, as contrary to all their Forms, but advised him to call a Meeting at Tioga which they would attend, & send to the Six Nations to do the same: that Genl. Sullivan took no Notice of this, & therefore they could do nothing further in the Matter, & that tho' ten of their People went to him, they all left him, except Oniegot & three others, upon his ~~[illegible]~~ Neglecting to call a Meeting. — Sayangaragta said it was ridiculous & seemed like insulting them, to make them a Proposal of Settling again in their Country, after they had destroyed it, & left them ~~no~~ Habitations: that they had experienced their Perfidy so often that he would pay no Regard to any Thing they could say, nor would he ever submit to the Rebels.

In the Course of the Conversation Col. Johnson took occasion to observe that one half of His Majesty's Troops now in America were sufficient to have destroyed the Rebels long since, had they not been restrained by the Clemency of the British Government, and imposed upon by the false Pretences of the Rebels in general, & the fair Promises of many Individuals; but they had so long & so constantly violated their Promises & Engagements that no Attention was due to any Thing they said.

Skanandong was then removed, and Little Abraham the Mohawk sent for. He said, without any Hesitation that 66 principal People having met together at Philadelphia to consult about what was to be done, in Regard of the Indians, had agreed, that if the Six Nations would return & live in Peace at their Old-Homes they should have Nothing further to fear from them, & might remain quiet & undisturbed, that this was now the last Offer that should be made, which if they rejected, they had nothing further to expect, as no Terms would afterwards be granted them: ~~Abraham added~~ ~~assured them to give the Indians this Offer~~ [illegible] ~~that he had undertaken to~~ [illegible] themselves that they might be permitted to live, & desired Abraham & the Others to tell Colo. Johnson, that if he was really as much the Friend of the Indians as he pretended to be he would advise them to embrace this Offer, and save themselves from Ruin.

Sayangaraghta told him the Chiefs would meet and consult together, with Respect to their Message. The

the

other replied that as he came to hold ff Council, he ought to appoint the Place of Meeting; that he wanted to speak to them all together, and open their Eyes to their Situation, which he pitied & deplored. He however was given to understand, that in this he must not pretend to interfere.

Tuesday 15th. This Morning Capt. Shinoh came & informed Col. Johnson that his Party was increased to 25; that he had been detained hitherto by Montour but was now resolved to wait no longer & would set off Tomorrow. He got a further supply of Axes, Ammunition and som Liquor to drink with his Friends at Parting. –

Saiyangaraghta & some of the other Chiefs being a little in Liquor, the Meeting that was to have been held to Day concerning the Rebel Indians & their Message, was put off tile Tomorrow.

"Wednesday 16th. This Morning the Little – Beard, of Genesea, just arrived from Hunting, waited upon Col. Johnson, and presented his Son & Brother to him, he took them by the Hand & gave the former a Silver Moon & th latter a Pair of Arm Bands. — [illegible] Beard told him he had met Cap.t Brant & Party last Monday Evening, who travelled but slowly ~~on Acc.t of~~ to give those who remained behind an Opportunity of overtaking him soon. that he had promised Cap.t Brant that afte giving some Directions in Regard of his Family, he would follow him with some of his People, which h s.d he intended to do within a Couple of Days, if Col Johnson thought proper. Col.o Johnson told him he much approved his Design, & dismissed him for the present with a little Liquor.

Col.o Johnson wrote to L.t Johnston at Kadaragoras t encourage the Indians in that Quarter to be active, also sent a small Present to Kiashota, with some little Things for M.r Johnstons own Use by two Ind ans from thence.

Capt.n Thinsp. Party set off this Morning & were compli mented with a Couple of Guns from the Garrison.

Thursday 17th. This Morning Montour received Ammunition for eight Indians who are to go out to War with him

Copy

Michilimackinac 15th Febr. 1780

Sir,

I had the Honor to inform You in November last, with my intentions of securing for the Winter the Sloop Felicity and the other small Vessels in Haldimand Bay Michilimackinac Island; and for that purpose a Wharf is carried out 150 Feet in length giving 12 feet of water; the second and last Angle frame of it will be finished in Ten days hence and completed for answering the end; as it will be then a Straight projection of 120 feet with two Frames of 60 feet placed at an Angle of 120 Degrees. The further security which this Island may afford for the Garrison, Kings Stores, and Commerce, has engaged me to employ part of the Troops and some Canadians, in sawing Plank and Boards, making Shingles, squaring Timber for a Provision Store, Officers Barracks & Block Houses, And in clearing Ground to place them upon when it becomes necessary. As no particular requisition can be made with propriety in the present State of the Province, either to the Commander in Chief, or to the Commanding Officers of Posts, I can only represent our present Situation (well known to you) to be such that ought to give Place to the other as soon as assistance can be spared to Effect it —. Men and Materials are the Desiderata. If the wants expressed by Colonel Bolton are very urgent, our Northern Situation will give us the advantage of Winds, in sending what probably You cannot spare, or the Colonel get from Carleton Island so early —. If you are of this opinion an Express can come here early enough to do the needful — opening a Communication between Niagara and this Place by Torrondo would certainly benefit the Kings Service. If a reformation can be brought about at St. Josephs, where assistance from this will always be intercepted and impaired while it remains in its present State; as it lays so much in the way of our Partys sent to cut off the supplies of any Rebel Force directed against droit or Niagara — The Sieurs du Gay carries a Letter from me to Monsr. Chevalier, requesting that He will remove as soon as possible all the Goods and Effects at St. Josephs as near to this Place as he can, and that he will, with all His Majestys Subjects remove to this Post with all convenient speed. In this and all other matters evidently necessary. I shall promise myself your assistance, & that of all the Commanding Officers on the Communication.

In compliance with my Lord George Germain's Letter, I have sent a War Party from hence to join and act with the Scioux under Wabasha their Chief — Mons.r Rocque the Interpreter for that Nation, if he can go! with A M.r Key as English Interpreter & Commissary, will join him; and I hope that they will proceed sufficiently early and in force to be of service. I shall prepare other small Bands and send off as soon as I can, with safety, disclose the objects of their Mission.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant

(Signed) Patt. Sinclair
Lt. Gov.r of Michilimackinac

Major De Peyster.

Detroit 10th March 1780

Sir,

I received a Letter from Mons.r Louis Chevalier of St. Josephs, acquainting me that the Rebels have totally quitted the Illinois Country. Thirty Indians are also arrived from the Ouiat and Post Vincent, in consequence of my invitation, who declare that the Rebels shall not repass the Wabash.

Lieut.t Caldwell, is returned from the Shawanese Country with Capt. M.c Kee, M.r Elliot, the Girtys, and about 50 Indians, amongst them are the principal Chiefs of the Mingoes, Shawanese, and Delawares. They report that the Rebels failed in their attempt to build a Fort at Cooshocking, but that they have now surrounded the Indian Hunting ground of Kentuck, having erected small Forts at about two days Journey from each other — The Indians further say that the Virginians intend to cross the Ohio this spring, and build a Fort on the Little Miamis — They therefore require of their Father to give them the assistance promised by former Commandants, in case the Enemy should approach their Villages — They produced

Lt. Govr.

Lieut. Govr. Hamilton's Belt, and Strings to this Effect, to prove their aſsertion, saying, that it was now time to fulfill the promise, or, they would soon be under the disagreeable neceſsity of falling back, and thereby become a burthen to their Father, or else that they must retire to the Southward. The principal Chiefs of the Hurons, Pottawatumies, Chippawas, Ottawas, Ouiettanons, Miamis, Ouiats, Peorias, and Keekapoos, being present in council, declared, that, if I would send some Soldiers, till a greater Body could be spared, they would rise and aſsist their Elder Brothers, and for the future act in conjunction for the good of the Kings Service.

Seeing the neceſsity of complying with their requests, I propose to send Captain Bird with a Lieut. of the 47th and about Fifty Soldiers, with two small pieces of Ordnance, the Indian Officer and some Volunteers from the Settlement. The Route they shall take is up the Glaise, and down the Great Miamis, into the Ohio.

I flatter myself that this little movement will favor Lt. Govr. Sinclairs Partys down the Miſsippi, divert the attention of many from Niagara, and be of some service to Brigr. Genl. Campbell, in case he has not already taken new Orleans.

The Wabash Indians and some from Michilimackinac have promised to divert Clark at the Falls. So soon as the Ice is clear from the Miami bay, I will send off this Party —

The annexed proceedings of Lt. Caldwell, I send for your perusal, and which you will forward to the General, if you think proper; I have enclosed a Map of the Indian Country in my Letter to the General.

I am glad I have an opportunity of sending off Lt. Govr. Sinclairs Letters on receipt of them, as he is very anxious for their getting down before the Traders leave Montreal. I see he is moving the Fort over to the Island. He makes great requisitions from the Naval Department, and to Me for Canon and Ammunition, none of which can be complied with: Capt. Grant sends down a Copy of his Letter.

I fear the Sloop Wyandot is lost, not having been heard of at Michilimackinac. There are some hopes yet that She may have wintered at Manitoualin, or the French River.

Captn. Grant has delivered me the several vouchers for Freights. I send you a Copy of his Account, and only wait orders to have it collected.

The distresses of the Inhabitants here, are very great for want of Bread — not an Ounce of Flour, or a grain of Corn to be purchased, many will be at a loss for grain to put in the ground, the fall Wheat, however, has a good appearance from having had a quantity of Snow.

I am sorry to inform you, Sir, that Lt. Bunbury and Mr. Godfrey the Conductor are drowned, by the overturning of a Canoe — The Ducks flying in Clouds past the Fort, the Gentlemen forgetting they had been desired not to go in Canoes, too eager of Sport, have lost their lives: And Mr. Saumarez & DuVernet had a miraculous escape. I now shall put an effectual stop to Canoeing.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most humble and
Obedient Servant —
(Signed) At. S. De Peyster

Lieut. Colonel Bolton.

Copy of a Letter from Lt. Govr. Sinclair to Major De Peyster dated 15th Feby. 1780 —
And
Copy of a Letter from Major De Peyster to Lt. Col. Bolton dated 10th March 1780 —

them by the Hand & gave the former a Silver Gorget,
latter a Pair of Arm Bands. — [illegible] Brant told
him he had met Capt.t Brant &c [illegible] last Monday Eve-
ing, who travelled but slowly [illegible] those who
remained behind an Opportunity of overtaking him
soon, that he had promised Capt.n Brant that after
giving some Directions in Regard of his Family, he
would follow him with some of his People, which
s.d he intended to do within a Couple of Days, if Co.l
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164.

Aaron the Mohawk Chief came & spoke to Col.^o Johnson about his Brother going out with a Party, & in Regard to the Indians from the Rebels; with Regard to the former he was refered till his Brother returned from his Hunt, & the latter to be further discussed when Sayorgaraghta & the other Chiefs assembled.

The Chiefs having resolved to give the Rebel Indians a Hearing, they assembled at Col.^o Johnsons Quarters this Afternoon, and the others were sent for from the Fort.

Present at the Meeting.

Col.^o Johnson Supt.
Major Butler } Dep.y Agents
M.r Deace }
Capt. Hare
Capt. Powel
Capt. Johnston
Lieut. Hyllier
Lieut. Lottrige
Lieut. Dochstader
Lieut. Johnston
Lieut. Krysler
R. Cartwright Secy.
Lewis Clement } Interpreters
Nich.s Stevens }

When they were [illegible] and seated, it was signified to them that they might now deliver what they had to say. Accordingly Abraham the Mohawk first addressed himself to Col.^o Johnson as follows.

Brother

165.

Brother Goragh Wraghquadeha!

We by this Belt entreat that you will give a respectful hearing while we address ~~the utmost of your Best Attention and Patience what we are going to say~~ ourselves to our Bretheren of the Six Nations, for what we think ~~as it~~ nearly concerns their Interes and Welfare. Gave a Belt.

He then addressed himself to the Chiefs in the Na of the Sachems, mentioning each Nation ~~each particular member~~ in their order, according to their usual Form.

Brothers! You have already heard what I have said to your Superintendant in Order to make hi mind easy, and I shall now proceed to speak to you about your present Situation, in his Presence, which we hope he will have no Objections to.

Brothers! We have often observed to you that it was not the Business of us Indians to take Part in any Quarrels between the White People, as they are of one Flesh & Blood, & their Affairs do not concern us. This has often been told you ~~both~~ as well formerly by Government as since by the Reb

~~and you accept first desired by both only to remain~~
who desired nothing but ~~your Neutrality~~ that you would be neuter.
~~Neuter.~~ If you had observed this prudent Conduct, you would not have been obliged to leave your Country & abandon those Habitations which must have been so dear to you. The disagreeable Situation which a contrary Behaviour has brought you to has affected us much, and induced us to come hither at this Time, and we dare say your Superintendant must be also affected at it. We are now come once more to desire you to lay down your Arms & be neuter, in which Case we can assure you that the Rebels will allow you to return & enjoy your Lands & Villages again in Peace and Security. We the Mohawks & Oneydas, the Heads of the Confederacy while undivided, have remained neuter as we said we would, and we intreat you to accept of this Offer, as perhaps it is the last that will be made you, and return again to your former Habitations that the five Nations by this Means may be once more what they have been, & that we may again see the

Smoke

167.

Smoke arising from those Villages which are now desolat
and abandoned.

Gave a white Belt with 13 Squares.—

Ngorondajats one of the Oneydas ~~of Ohughquaga~~ then got up & spoke, in the
Name of the Warriors.

Brothers!

We approve very much of what our Unc
the Sachems have said, which we beg you to heark
to and consider, as the great Spirit loves People wh
will attend to good Advice. We hope you will lay d
your Arms & remain neuter, as it is not our Busines
to interfere in the Quarrels of other People, and beside
you see that you cannot be supported, and that no
other Nations of Indians act as you have done

Gave a Belt.

He then delivered another Speech in the Name o
the Women, to the Women of the Six Nations, desi-
ring them to use their Influence over the Warriors, to
make them comply with the offer now made them

Gave a Large white Belt with black Lacin

Abrah

Abraham then spoke again as follows.

Brothers.

Being grieved at your distrest Situation we went down to Philadelphia and there proposed to the Principal Men assembled at that Place, that they should allow you to return & settle again in your Country on Condition that you lay down your Arms and remain neuter. They readily complied with our Request, and said it was what they had several Times proposed without Effect: they desired us to lose no Time to acquaint you with it, & to desire you to come down as soon as possible if you approve of it, and even ~~if~~ if you should not, if any of your Chiefs will come down and speak to them, they promise they shall not be hurt, or detained against their Will.

Gave a white Belt with 4 black Squares

After he had ended Coll. Johnson told them, that, agreeable to their Belt he had permitted them to deliver what they had to say, that the Six Nat^s. might have a free opportunity to ans^r them but as he could ~~treat~~ not ~~treat~~ or take a belt from, People of their Character

he

169 he must return their, and threw it towards them with Contempt.

Sayangaraghta then told them, he and the Chiefs had attended to what they had said, and would give them an Answer when they had properly considered of it. And Liquor being brought, he drank to the Health of the other Indians, omitting the four Rebels as a mark of his Contempt, & the meeting broke up.

To Day a Cayouga Woman & two Children who had been Prisoners among the Rebels were presented to Col.o Johnson, who gave Orders to have them clo
Sayangaraghta also got five Silver Crosses this

Friday 16th. The Ind.s [illegible]

[illegible]

Quarter

Present

Col.o Johnson Sup.t
~~Major Butler~~ } Dep.y Agents
M.r Deace — — }
~~Capt.ns Johnston~~
— — Powel
~~Lieu.t Hyblier~~
— — Deckstader

Lieu.t Johnston
— — Lottrige
— — Wryfler
— — Younge
R. Cartwright Sec.y
Lewis Clement & } Inter.s
Nich.s Stevens }

Niagara
17 February, 1786

Speech of the Six Nations, in Mohawk. For translation see XXIV, 2-6

II, 163-172

Niagara February 17th 1780. was the First Meeting.

yon gwat gea ri son on negh|was deagh ro non|
| ron lok tit nha on at se|
ne ne|ro nea|de lva ta degea son|de lva ta dea ne tagh nyl wen
sononi|gea non lve|ni se wat gea ni son|ogh ri ya ga ra|
yon glve ke ron da on|sa ya glva da te lvea na vong egh|
on glva nongh syo nigh glve|ne|ne tsi ni yo negh rak gwagh|
ka no ron|tsi na on glva ya da lvea|o nea yagh|degh ka non 20
sa degh|ok ne cyh|tsi yage nisha nigh sa gyadea ne
tagh glwen|ne lvagh on ni|sa gyad on hagh glve|dogh sagh|
se lvat ste ris|on lvagh hagh|nea yon glva ya da lvea|
hea de lvat ka ron ni|ase gea ni|ok|ho nea tsi ni yage ni
no rongh glva|gea ga nongh syon ni|ne ka ti|yage negh regh 20
da on se se lva ya do regh de|on glva ya ne regh se ragh|
a on se se lvat kagh tho|hea ska nongh syon ni negh se|
hea ti se lva dat re lvagh|te a glve gon|hea jon tyea don|
tsi ni gea tsi ta gegh|ne tsi o ni|ni gon|ne ka sean thon gegh
yo yeagh va ron don yon glve|agve gon hea|jon tye don|
hea se lvea ni yo ha ge|na ka ongh lven jagh|egh ni yon ge ni ri
yon ron dea|a gya ta tha lvagh|ka ya ne regh se ragh|yon 20
gyat ste ris don|ne o ni|ka ri on|nigh syb re|tyot kon|
yon ge nigh tha ragh glve|ka ya ne ragh se ra|yon glwat
ste ris don|egh se ni yo ri lvagegh|

ro tigh sgea ra gegh te|sa ro ti lvea na|hea ts dea ro non|
ne ne|ro nea|lva glve de lvea na nea dak te|nea yon ghi
syoni|sa ya lvea|a glva|sa ka yea dagh tsi|tsi yo ri lvagegh 20
hea ka ti|lvea ni ne gea ne|on glva no seagh se ragh|egh se ni
ni yon glwa ni gon ro dea|ne sea non ka ti|ya glva de ron dagh glw 20
ot ke non|lvagh on ni rone|egh ka ti|son is se ne ke|se lvagh
regh|hea se lvat on da te|tsi nea ka ti ye re|se lvano se se

16 ne | da he se | wado ^ton^ vegh dagh gwe | tsi nikanoron | 3
tsi na onghwa yada wa | neoni | negh se wadon | 3
gea ni yeyogh ha | tsi yade ^ot^ wats hoghs | on gwadategeas ony 5
geaoni | non ka tigh | sa dagh | ni ha ongh weajagegh | 4
se wadon | onea | ka ti | ne ori wagon | ondon | yagh nonge ~~-to~~ 20
ongh ka | de yo nonghsa yenhea | se wa da te gea son | aghwa gi | 3
ya tise wa yatighste | se wa nongh syon ni geagh hagh |
eghnea ne ni yo ri wagh | 3

---

25 o ti kugh tye o gon ^aghte^ a | o ti wea ne | wats deagh ro non |
ne ne | wa gon ki ron | yo negh vagh gwagh | wa ongwa righwi-
yogh se | tsi na ti ye ri | onghwa no seagh se ragh | egh ka ti |
wa gwa de wea na nyea deaghea yon ghi wea na ronge |
oni | ia | ro tigh skea ra yegh de | akhigh tsi agh | ro ti nongh- 23
syon ni | ne ne | tsi ni yo negh rak gwagh | tsi na onghwa ya-
da wea | syagh kide yon gwa ni wagh | ne ra^o^ti ri wa | go raghyo wa-
| wats deagh ro non | ^ro nagaviyo^ egh ka ti | nigh | wa onghwa yada neadugea | 1
onea | o ni | wa deghagh syago | onghwa ni yen ragh |
ne ka ti | da he se wa yado reghde | tsi ni yo nangh wak de | 21
on gwa ni yon ragh | ni ne | skea nea thageahagegh |
ne jon gwe on wegh | egh | nea ne | ni yo ri wagegh |

#1 ^Da yorhagengh | wahatya da gwarighshi |^ tha nyeada ka yon | ra o weana | ne ne | wagh hearon |
de wa da te gea son | o nea | se wat on datye | yon gorigh ten-
heatyegh | tsi ni yo ri wagegh | wa daghghe ne | nage ni yadago-
none onea | shage ri wea yeanen dane | tsi ni yo ri wage | 22
yon gyon nongh dar ungon ongh | ne tho negh regh ron gea |
onghwe on wegh | ratsteristha | ne yo ri on ni ongh |
yon ge ne rongh | aghwagh | o do gea ongh | hea wadon |
ge gea | ne ~~gea~~ ne ka don hea skanon syon ni ne |
dea tsi se wa ya do reghde | onghwa ya ne ragh se ragh | 19
15

167

a glwaagh|ka ti yo negh vagh glyagh|ro vigh twi yogh segh|
~~[illegible]~~ ne kati|ne ra lwea|
on glo on lwaghsvatse vis ~~tha~~ rekati|ok nya vegh|

20

eyh|thi yogh dongh ak|nya ve|kanada yea yo lwagh|
ye yegh|a glwagh|kea kudo yea nitsi ni o ti ni gonvadon
dege ni ya lwea ve|ni kea yo vaghtse va yagh|
tsi ni selwa ~~ti~~ gonvadea|
do kagh|kea ho ti vigh twi yogh se|eyh|nea ne ni ya lwea ongh
onea|nene|son sa ra lwegh|tea nyeada ka yon|ra lwea| 28
yo negh rak glwagh|twa hoti righ twi yogh se|
Dyetegeni ya lwea ve|ni kea yo vagh tse vayegh|
tsi nade selwa yado vegh dongh|aglwegon|kati|
yo don ongh|kea jelwea ni yo hak egh|nea kaongh
twea jagh|tsi ni gongh|yode kanyon glwe|aglwegon|
oni ~~ra~~|kayeant on gegh gongh|yo yeag glwaro don| 21
aglwegon|kea jen don|lwagh keavon|aglwagh ne
katsee yea neada on atye|nene|do geagh skeg|keas
selwa dat ve lwagh de|eyh|nea ne ni yo vi lwagh| 10 28

March 14 1780

of Nyagara
February 19 - 1780

kanonravon|vegh thare|
yon glwatgeani-sonon ne
vati nongh syon ni|thodi lweani negea ongh|
ne rati lwea nagegh son|sa o ti ve on tyegh son|
~~[illegible]~~ tsi ni yo vi lwage|
onea|deagh non|lwagh on ni von|yaghthade yonglwa ya 21
do veagh tongh|tsi yo vi lwa gegh|teselwa lweani ne
gea de|yagh se de ya lwegh|ki se a onde se von atye|
ja da te gea|wats deagh ro non|tsi nea ya lwea|
va otil ni gonva|o ti non syen seni|vonon ka agh|
dea kea ti yado veghde|tsi non lwe|nea sonda te nah
da vah kwen| 13 24

yagh de ya wegh | a go ri | a ni da ka we von a tye |
onea ka ye ri | ni yogh se vagh ga | shi yong wa yo de |
ska ni yongh va | yon gyon ni a tye se | onea |
yo righ wagh ri von | tsi ni yon gwa ni gon vo dea |
yong wa ye na wa go | vagh gon wagh | va o ri wagh |
yon gwe von | yong wa vigh wa do gea ak | ni iegh |
yagh ka ti de ya gwe vogh | yong wa yan | tagh do ongh | 2
geagh | a gwa gi | yon gwen ni yongh von ni | tsi yong wa ri =
wa do geagh | ska ri wagh | yong wa ye na wa yon |
ka righ wa yon | ya so ni de ya wegh | na kea ron |
tha nyea da ka yon | na kea von | vo non gwe dak segh |
vo ti nongh syon ni a se geagh ne ne yong we =
ti yo | ya go vogh wa do gea | on gwe | nok ne ne |
yagh de ya go righ wa do gea | on gwe | ne ne | 21
yon gwe dak sea | yagh ka ne ni de | tya go ri wa ...
gwen de ja von gwen | non ka ye ni gon vhat ha
yagh | gagh ti ni yegh de yong wa ni gongh vo dea |
ka ya gwa ni gon vha tha yegh | nok | o ni | a gwe gon |
de yong wa ya do righ don | tsi yong wa ye wa da te =
ni gongh ri son | yon gwe von | a sa ha thogh
tsi nea yon gwa ya da wagh | do gagh | oni |
kea ho de va swi yogh segh | wats deagh ro non | 21
engh son gwa sea ni | ti gi | ya de ga ragh sa von |
tsi ni yon gwagh sea no deagh segh o ni | nea ya wea
ni | engh son gwa ri wa wa se | ne va ni yo |
ie ke | kea ya gwa dea sea ni | tsi ne awe |

kea yo vigh^e datye | a gowa gon | kanyegeaghe |
ne | ne ſe gon onghwen ja gon ſaye gon ſondon
ſyegh | yaghde yo ſ. degh waagh | aghwaagh gi | dekarigh
ſa von | tsi ni yon gwa da te ni yongh ri ſon | 19
de yon gwa ye ne wa yongh | ne gwa ya ne regh ſe ragh
go ragh go waagh | ni ſ ro non yeaghe | ſe wa don | geagh
gon yea ne ſagh gwen | kagh het yeaghe | ſe weani
gengh ron dagh gwen | ſe wa nongh ſyonni | 20
aghwagh | kati | nia ne | tka ri wa yeri | tsi ni ſe waye
ra gon ye ne | ſagh gwagh | do geagh ſke |
ſea hetjeagh | yon gwen ni yon ron dagh gwen |
gan gwa di ri yogh | watſdeagh ronnghe | 21
yagh | ni | deyaghwadon | kaya neregh ſera
yon gwenni yongh re neragh gweaghe | nok righ
yon yene dagh gon | ſadon gea | ka ya ne righ ſe ragh
wa katſte ris don | ſa don ni | gen rongh gwagh
gea | ka non ſyon ni | ſagh waaghe | ka ti ye neghrek wa
wa de ti negh ra go | ſ ra ti go waneagh | ſe | ro tsnon
ſyoni | eghe geaghe | ni yogh | ne kaya neregh ſerighe | 22
ſatſteri don | yea ſa ſeghda nyon tye ſe deghs kani 23
ni ya ſe re | ra tyya da ti geaghe | go ragh | orea
yea ne de ho ti reghda | ka ra de gen gwa gea ſ ro yo 24
hagh | ro tigh ſ kara yegh de | ſagh gwe |
ie ſegh | eghe | ni ſaye regh | ne ka ya ne regh ſerigh
ſat ris don | teſe on waagh gwa hagh | ſe onde ni go |
ja dare | agh ſea ſe | neane | o righ wak dagh. |
o nek | na | ja da righ ne | ne ka ya ne regh ſe ra | ſ kat ſe
ris dagh | ne ka ti waagh on ri wa oti nagh ra yaghe |
ro ti nongh ſyon ne | ka ya ne regh ſe ragh | ſe ſe ri ſon |

o ki|thi twa ghwe yon ye ſa da— kon|ſe twa ka tſogh ſoni|
ye ſe ta twan thongh|tſi|ka wene da ſoni|ye ſa da twa en thon|
ogh ſagh ra yegh|oni|ſon ta onenri ni|ne go ragh|de ſe ni ye nagh|
ja da te gea|twa ſtagh ro non|egh da gegh jat yon|ka nonno|
o ni ſ yegh ſa ſe rea ka twi ſ gwe|nok|ne non twagh 29
twagh ſon gwa nongh ſa don gogh|ja dawe|o nea|ne egh|
kagh ſhi gwa ragh ron n yan|ſa da twen tit kon|
ni ne ka ya ne raagh ſe ragh|ſhatſte riſ don|yagh nea ne=
ne|ſe ſa ri ho dagh ſyon|na agh ſhi ron|egh ni gon|
~~ſ ni gon~~ ſe twa ka de rig twa de twagh dongh|
nene|a ke ſea onea kati|ſa ka tat re twagh ti| 20
tſi ni gon|ſe twa ka de righ twa de twagh don|onea|
gea ſak gyen|na ye na gon ra|tſi ſe twea de ron|
ſe twa yo twea nagh ſe|ſe twa nongh ſyon ni|
te kagh|ne tſi na yu twea ongh|ongh twa ni gon ragh|
ta kagh ne da yon gwa ya do ragh ton|neſt|na ke ſe rwa
yi regh|agh twagh ka ti|ye twe do twa nea da yon=
gwa de ri ho dagh ſe|tſi ni yo ri twa yegh|de ſe twa=
twa ni ne geane|ne twagh on ni|yagh tha de yon= 21
gwa ya da regh tongh|nene ſe twa don geagh|
ja ſe twa dat re twagh|ſe twa nongh ſyon ni|ſa ſe twat=
kagh thogh|on gwa ya ne ragh ſe ragh|egh gegh|ne ſe=
ra ſe regh|ſe twa dat ka twagh|ya gwen rongh|ka tigh| 22
on gwa nongh ſyon ni|ſe|deagh nongh|ſa ſe tat re twagh|
righ ſe ron da go twagh|ſongh ka agh|twagh high|
ſea nontſhogh ſyon|tſi de yon gwen nontſhonde|
ye ragh go twagh|on gwa non ſa gwe gon|yea ni ka tigh
ne|ke de ſe
ye non ka tigh|ſa yen dagh gwen|ſa ni gon ragh| 28

vetik ska o gon agh|ro ne 24 ~~norgh~~ nyghtwa vaghdon tonghe|
twatsdeaghro · non|egh|non ka tigh|ye sa yea ssa nigonra|
nigh se vonda go twagh|geagh twaghtis|ka yeagh ·|
va go twa neu go vagh go twagh|ka vigh twa ka yon|
ne sa de yon gt sa ye na twa gon|ongtwa ya ne nyghseva·|
a gtwa gon|ni ye onon don nyon ogh|vo ti non syon ni|
a gtwagh ok|geathi|kavigh t sa gtsenghdatavi| — 21
de ya gtsa ga ne ve|tsi ni se twa ya daghton ongh|ni se teavon
go twagh|te ya gtsa ga ne vegh|oni yaghdetsa da tegeaseviyo
setwadategea agh|twats deavonon|anyon|ya oron|ok
ne|agh ya ryo|tsi sa de non tsit da ti|vo seva dagh |
ogh sdon hagh|kea savigh tsanthi geagh|nokhiantha seaghste
a s yeaghdeagh ya ga ne ve|tjaghda tegeaghtwatsdeaghro non
tjaghdet|kavigh twa yeri|tsi nigh sa tyeraha|ni [illegible]| 21
se ni gonrha thagh|de ja von gwen|non ka tigh egh o ni| 22
nigh sytsa yerha|on gtwa nongh syon ni|da gtwa nigonrhadea
nigh|se twa don|ka ya ne vagh seragh|yon gtwatstevisdon|
sa se vegh ha twigh se|da gtwa yeagh thagh|egh oni|
nigh jerhagh|ja da te gea|twats deagh vonon|
eaghtsshi|ni gonrhadeani|ne ka tigh twagh oni|onea 23
tjade skea non ni|onea|non twagh [illegible] tsi sata tja da gerha
ne oka vi on nigh segon| ja no von gtwagh|va o onghdaghti gea|
tsi sontakea|ne ne|da gtwa vigh twa yea sigh|
on gtwa nongh syon ni|yagh ka ti|deya twagh|
hi se|a on de se von atye|tsi nea twagh|hea segh sa deatti| 20
a se yeagh|tjagh|de ya twagh|a aghtso vigh twagh seghe 22
deagh|twats dea ronon|degh skanore|non twagh|ye no nea vo de|
tegh skova geyh deagh|ogh|ni yoro twageagh| 10

The Six Nations
Speech at Niagara
10th febr.y 1780.—

Nak ge no ha agh |
gea | ve de ran | nok | ne ni |
da yo hea sere | agh di vöndon yea |
ogh ske anon don agh !
cygh ni ha tygh | va te nho don
onea togh kavagh | nea Idadyo |
kea son Wa Tinho don goght
kea ongh dea ti |

14

14

~~[illegible] of a Document, in Mohawk~~, on page 16

Vol. 2, 'Claus' Papers.

Niagara, February 17th 1780.

was the First Meeting.

We had a meeting with the deputies from the Bostonians (Americans) who addressed us and said.

Brethern. "You have made a decampment and come to this place – Niagara, where we have heard one anothers' words once more, we who were formerly of the League (Long House). What has happened to us all is calamitous! There is now no Long House where you and I can safely tell one another our fears, by saying to each other 'do not meddle in this affair (war) or this calamity will happen to us, we will suffer this disaster, for we love our Long house. Hence we are of the mind that you, who decamped, should reconsider our Law (the policy of the Long House) and thus enable yourselves to behold once more the rebuilding of the Long House, and repent of your action so then all our people will live again upon the different former firesides and plantations, and smoke will rise again from their former cabins, and all will enjoy the mastership of their former lands once again. This is our mind. We have always said you and us must uphold the Law of our Long House. These are our words.

" The Warriors from the Bostonians said:
We are going to add our message too. We will be heard too by the Warriors of the late Long House, and it is our desire that our words should sink deep into your minds. So now we say unto you our relatives. We who reside on this side, warriors, hear what our relatives say, and that you will do the same, and that you will be disposed to do what your relatives tell you to do. Consider the awful calamity that has fallen upon us all. You say this calamity has even gone west among our brethern there, as well as to The Seven Nations in the east. - not even one cabin is left of your brethern. you are, therefore, left alone, the late people of the Long House. You truly say that the time is hopeless. But do as we tell you and all will be good again. This is the extent of our message to you"

The words of the Women from the Bostonians:
"We are very pleased with what our brothers have done in inviting us. So we avail ourselves the occasion by adding our message to theirs. We too will be heard by the warriors, our elder brothers, of the Long House. We speak of one thing only, the awful calamity that has befallen upon us, through none of our affair but the affair of the King and the Bostonians ~~in~~ warring against one another, by their dividing of our minds and causing us to be parties to

to their quarrel. You must stop and give thought to the agony of mind we are all in, and see that peace is maintained among all the Indians. This is all the message we bring.

Da yor hen se reh then straightened him self and said the words of Tha nyen da ga yon:

Brothers. You have been hearing the matters that have been entrusted to us to tell you.

After we, two, had finished thinking and came to a decision on this matter, the Indian Superintendant was informed and his reply was such as to give us good reason to think of the possibility, I say, of the rebuilding of the Long House, where you will again gather together and consider our Laws. It was therefore very pleasing to know that the Indian Superintendant approved of this. "So let that be for the time being" said Tha nyen da ga yon, "until I have visited Philadelphia and have thoroughly ascertained the mind of the twelve Governments whether they will approve our decision". And this was done. When he returned, Tha nyen da ga yon said: "They, the twelve Governments, were highly pleased with your decision". It is therefore possible for you to be once more masters of your former land, over the former number of your firesides, over your many former tilled fields, over your many former smoking fire places, all these things are now being made ready for you, if you will sincerely repent of your ways. This is all the affair.

Niagara February 19 1780.

Ka nonra ron speaking: "We are gathered in council as a Long House. On the words issued from them there is implied that we have not given thought to this matter. It is not likely that you would do the thinking for your brother, the Bostonian, as to what action the mind of the Long House choose to take. They alone will decide where they will stand. It is not likely that some other will do the thinking for them. It is now four years we have been going as of one mind, and our minds are ~~more~~ now more than ever steadfast in upholding the cause of the King. We have made up our minds to be faithful. We do not think we are astray for we have premeditated and decided to be faithful and steadfast in holding to this one purpose. It is impossible for Ka nyen da garyon to say that "the men of the Long House are bad." I say: "All those who are faithful and steadfast are good, but those who are unfaithful are bad, and those who are not on either are deceivers." We are not deceivers. We have all well considered our decision that no matter what will happen to us even should the Bostonian be lucky enough to defeat us, our names will always be respected for our faithfulness. Even so the King will uphold us, for we are going to win in time. And in time that is coming all those yet in earth facing hitherward will see not in secret the wisdom of our decision. We and the King will hold together our Laws. In this connection you say: "It (Law) has been taken from you; evil has led you, people of the Long House, from your mind." What you say may be true in part, for some thing has entered our mind to fight the Bostuman, but I say, the Laws (of the Long House) have been truly taken away from you. We do not say that we have abandoned and discarded our Laws, while you say uphold and maintain our Laws and further say "I love the Long House". This is amazing, the chiefs of the Long House are amazed, to hear such pretentions, claiming to be an upholder of our Laws and going about striking us and the King, here and there. You have put us and our brother the King on top of one another as one in your attacks.. [The next two lines are unintelligeble] You who claim to be upholder of our Laws was the doer. More recently when they fought at Fort Stanwix you were there as a combatant, you upholder of our Laws. That is why the men of the Long House are amazed at your pretentions of being upholder of our Laws. And again you were fighting at Oswegatsy, and again fighting at "The Island", and at "Ogh sagh ragegh". And when the army of the King was coming you were active in helping your brother, the Bostonian, to cause its downfall.

You were also carrying your battle axe at New York. When he (Bostonian) attached our homes you were there with him, and again at "Wa shi gwa ra ron nyon", you were massacring, you upholder our Laws. You did not reveal these episodes to us here and said: "These are what wrongs I have committed". You should have said: "I now repent for all the wrongs I have committed and I now bring back my mind here where you, Chiefs of the Long House are gathered". If you had done this our minds might have considered, but instead much was wanting in the issue of your words. That is why we will not consider when you say: "Repent, you, people of the Long House; look upon our Laws again". Did you not say that? We of the Long House say to you, the Big Tree (Oneidas) you are the ones who should repent. You alone have withdrawn your hands from those of the King and us as well as from the entire house on our side. You have placed your mind on the other, among the children, the Bostonians, who have lost their minds, there. I say, you, the Big Tree, have placed your mind. It is here the ancient covenant with the great King, we with him hold our Laws together, and the mind of the Long House that it shoud (covenant) remain spread out and open to all.

We see the extent of your straying, you the Big Tree; we also see the bad brotherhood you are in. Your brother, the Bostonian, is presented unto view as one about to kill you; at your head his axe is suspended, so that at the least sign of your failure he will let it fall, for he, the Bostonian, sees you, his brother, the Big Tree when you are not doing right, when you are working deceit towards both sides, towards us, people of the Long House by saying that you uphold our Laws while at the same time going about striking us with your axe, and doing the same to your brother, the Bostonian, deceiving him too. He has spared you so far because you are busy for him, and that is why, he says, he loves you, for your life is his ear. You are spying us, people of the Long House. It is, therefore, not likely that you should do the thinking for us while here and before you leave, and it is not likely too, you can uphold any secret from him, the Bostonian. You can see, right now, the troop of our warriors.

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Translation of a Document, in Mohawk, on page 165, Vol. 2, Claus Papers.

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We see the extent of your straying, you, the Big Tree; we also see the bad brotherhood you are in. Your brother, the Bostonian, is presented into view as one about to kill you; at your head, his axe is suspended, so that at the least sign of your failure, he will let it fall, for he, the Bostonian, sees you, his brother, the Big Tree when you are not doing right, when you are working deceit towards both sides, towards us, people of the Long House by saying that you uphold our Laws while at the same time going about striking us with your axe, and doing the same to your brother, The Bostonian, deceiving him too. He has spared you so far because you are busy for him, and that is why, he says, he loves you, for your life is his ear. You are spying us, people of the Long House. It is, therefore, not likely that you should do the thinking for us while here and before you leave, and it is not likely too, you can withhold any secret from him, the Bostonian. You can see, right now, the troop of our warriors."

This is all".

My uncle is here, but Da yo hen se re, A gwi ron don gwas, and Ogh sken non don agh are in prison. It will only be few days more when they will be let out, and they will go away.

[These lines were on the reverse side of the last page on Page 172. Vol II Claus Papers]

169 he must return theirs, and threw it towards them with Contempt.

Sayangaraghta then told them, he and the other Chiefs had attended to what they had said, and would give them an Answer when they had properly considered of it. And Liquor being brought, he drank the Healths of the other Indians, omitting the four Rebels as a Mark of his Contempt, & the Meeting broke up.

To Day a Cayouga Woman & two Children who had been Prisoners among the Rebels were presented to Col. Johnson, who gave Orders to have them cl[illegible] Sayangaraghta also [illegible]

[illegible]

Present

Col. Johnson Supt.
~~Major Butler~~ }
Mr. Deace -- } Depy Agents
~~Capt~~ Johnston
- -- Powel
~~Lieut.~~ Tyffire
- - Dochstader

Lieut. Johnston
-- Sirrige
---- Wrytter
---- Younge
R. Cartwright Secy
Lewis Clement } Interp.
Nichs. Stevens }

~~The Chiefs being assembled, desired that the four Rebel Indians might be sent for to hear their Reply to what they had said Yesterday; and having previously conferred with Col.. Johnson, & communicated to him the Purport of what they intended to deliver, they went to the Council Room, & Sayangaraghta there spoke to them as follows.~~

Mohawks & Oneydas! We have considered what you said Yesterday & think ~~it is~~ Insolence in such an inconsiderable people as you are ~~in you~~ to tell us what we are to do, or to say to us we ought to build or to settle at this or the other Place: it is great Presumption in you to pretend to dictate to the Six Nations. We have Land enough & shall choose out such Places as we think proper to settle & reside at.

Sayangaraghta then sat down & Aaron the Mohawk Chief proceeded.

We the Mohawks, Part of the Oneydas, the Onandagaes, Senecas, Cayougas, Tuskarroras, Nanticokes,

Shawanese

171 Shawanese & Delawares who with our Superintendant now he
assembled, tell you that we will take no Notice of your
sage, and think it the highest Presumption in such a
Handful as you, who are merely a few Individuals, t
offer to direct our Conduct. faithfully engaged we are ~~We have entered into En~~
~~gagements with~~ our Father the great King & his Agent ~~while~~ we have kept
up to, them from the beginning arose. ~~and~~ always mean to do; and you are mistaken w
you say that we stand alone, for our ~~Confederates~~ Friends are
many, and all the Nations from Canada to the rem
test Parts of the West our Confederates who follow our Example & are engaged in the same Cause
~~with us, & follow our Example~~. We have no Reason t
be ashamed of what we have done; we have acte
agreeable to our Treaties & Engagements with our F
ther the King, with whom our Ancestors have for m
ny Ages been connected, and let what will happen w
shall never be ashamed to shew our Faces for we
have not been Deceivers. Even suppose the Rebels
should get the better of us, it will not be in the Power
of our Contemporaries or our Posterity to reproach us,
to say that we acted wrong: but should the Rebels

over

overcome, how will you be able to look any Body in the Face; must you not hide your Heads after acting as you have done, in Violation of your most solemn Engagements, and in Opposition to the Rest of the Confederacy. You Children, you say you come for the Sake of Peace & Quietneſs, and for the Good of the Six Nations, but at the same Time bring a false Heart & a flattering Tongue to breed Confusion amongst us. You say you are Neuters, that you take Part with neither Side, that you love both the King & Congreſs, and would have us do the same; but it is false that you have been neuter. Have you not taken Prisoners & Scalps at Oswegatchie? Did you not fight against us at Fort Stanwix? Did you not go out to War against the King's People at Saratoga the Highlands & other Places? And did not some of you even join the Rebels who invaded our Country, & aſsist them to destroy us? And yet you have the Aſsurance to come, while the Hatchet you employed against us is yet in your Hands, and tell us that you have a great Regard for our

Peace

173 Peace & Welfare. Deceitful Set! You tell us Nothing of these shameful Things which you have done, but boast of your go Behaviour. If you had acknowledged your Faults, if yo had asked Pardon for them & promised to behave be ter for the future, perhaps we might have taken so Notice of what you said, & ~~received~~ recommended you into Favor. b as it appears that you only come to disturb & divide the Six Nations, who have ~~been~~ all along ~~[illegible]~~ for these last four Years acted as steady & zealous Friends to the King, we sha take no further Notice of you or your Message. - You imagine you are acting properly, but you deceive yourselves, & you attempt to deceive us. You are de sed & suspected on both Sides; and even your Bro the Rebels when they send you on their Errands, keep a watchful Eye over you, & have their Hatchet lifte up against you, ready to strike it into your Hea if you do not act in every Thing just as they would have you; & the only Reason why they shew you any Favor is, because you are mean enough to serve them as Spies upon us. but we do not act in this Manner, neither are we treated like you. We serve our Fa

ther

74.

the King faithfully & do not ~~even~~ get even an ill Look from any of his People but are all of one Heart & of one Mind. This is all we have to say to you. But you must not think of being dismissed yet: we have several Parties lately gone to War, & if we were to let you go now, we know you would run and acquaint Schuyler of them, in order to shew what useful Spies you are: if we let you go at all, we shall let you know when we think it proper you should. — There, take your Belts again as we shall pay no Regard to them. — ~~Col. Johnson thereupon arose & retired with the C~~

Gave back all the Belts.
Col^o. Johnson thereupon arose & retir'd w^t. the Chiefs & the Meeting end'd.

Saturday 19^th. This Morning Tanaghkewas, a principal Warrior of Geneseo just returned from Hunting, waited upon Col^o. Johnson, with two others, & told him that they had met the Parties going out who jeered them & cast some Reflections on their Nation: that he wished to make up a Party to go out to War, & requested Col^o. Johnsons Approbation as he would not undertake any Thing without it. — Col^o. Johnson told him he would lay no Restraint upon him, that he might

get

Carleton Island 18th Feb. 1780

Sir) Three Days ago I Received your Letter of the fifteenth Last month — be asurd there was nothing Could afford your friends at this Place So much Satefaxtion As it Did — for wee have had no Nues here Sence Last November — the Snow has bin So Deape here the whol winter ~~that~~ +it+ was impossibel for aney Scouts To Goo to fort Stanwix or the Mohake River —

There was Severel atemps maid but they was Always oblege to Return again — but I hope wee Shall Soon be abel now for the wather begins to Git Mild — with the asistence of Miss Molley & John Richard I have Explained your Letter fully to [illegible] the Indians — and have Got a Coppey Reader to Send to Col. Johnson — wich I Shall forward in A fue Days — Theogaunde & the old Speaker Thanks you kindly for your Presents — and in Return Desirs there best wishes to you and Famaley. — I hope with the asistence I have Here my Conduct will meate with the Generals Approbation —

And as I am sure you are ~~Sen~~Sensibel of my Senseraty for the
Caus I am ingaged in I hope you will asist me in
Everathing you Can with the Genarel — for I
Amagen the Next summer will be A Verey Active one
and. Onless the Genarel Gives me Ranck above thos
Boys that is in the Service — I naver Can Dow as
I Could wish. or as I ought for the Good of the
Service. — there is maney things I shall spake to you
about when I have the Plesure of Seing you —
wich I hope will be in the Spring —
Mrs Tice Joynes me in our Senceer Good wishes
And Kindest Compliments to you Mrs Claus &
Famaley — — —

Gilbt Tice

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

To. Col. Claus —

From Capt. Tice
Carleton Isd 10. Febr 1780

Miſs Molley and the Children are in Good
Helth - and wee [illegible] Paſs our time Verey
Agreabel Considering all things. wee have
a boll once a week - and Sevarel other
things to Paſs the time - I shall be Verey
Desirees to hear from you again when I hope
the Good Nues will be Confirmd ——

And Moor aded to it - - - - - =

I am Now Told of to Counsel with the Six nations —
They Spake as follows by a String of wampen to
Capt. Fraser & me — Brothers wee Desire you booth
to aquant Sir John Col. Claus & Col. Cambel —
that they must Exsart themselves and there intrust
with the Generel - and that there must be no time
Lost in the Spring to take [illegible] Proſestion of Oswego
For they Say if wee Donte the Rebbels Sartenly
will and then they Say they Con Do no moor
They hope the Generel wonte Set Lights by this
Nues as he has Don before by there Nues - for by that
Means they have Lost there Contrey -
They also Desire the Generel may be told - that
they hope he will Not Send a handful of men —

with two or three Small Brass Guns – as was the Cas
when wee went to fort Stanwix in Seventy Seven –
And a Generall that Love milk beter than they Did them
Selves for they Sau he Drank it all and would Not Give
Them aney – the String of wompen that they Spoke on
Captn Fraser has inclosed to Coln Cambel by there Desire
Sir John & you knows all this to be the Cas – ~~and~~

And Can aquaint the Generall fully with the bad
Consiquences that may atend in Cas of a Neglect –
I Realy bleave that they are Moor Sencear in the Caus
Now than they have bin Sence the trobels happened –
And moor younited. – I Think if the Generall Could
Put So much Confidence in me & Joseph as to Let us
have a middelen Large Partey in the Spring wee Could
Doo a Grate Deal with them – but wile my hands
is kept tied or they have bin for Sum time Past by
Pepel that are Enameys to me as well as to the Caus
I am ingaged in I Cant Doo as I would –
I flater my Self that you will Settel affairs in a much
better manner than they have bin sin for Sum time Past.
and be asurd I will Not Disgrace aney thing that
you may think Proper to Recomend me to the
Commander in Cheff – for I am yours Sencearly
To Sir John & Coln Claus — Gilbt Tice

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES

Jany △ 1779
Captn Obyh Sumner
13th Va. Regt No 29

Speech of the Mohawks Onondagas Cayugas & Delawares [illegible] at Carleton Island — addressed to [illegible]

Brother

We received a Message with a [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] will give them [illegible] Message [illegible] the Nations [illegible] Brother [illegible]

Brother of [illegible] You [illegible] the six Nations [illegible] (six Nations) last year [illegible] as we cannot help [illegible] then [illegible]

Brother You have taken [illegible] Your Warriors [illegible] the place, but you did not at any time [illegible] Hills you sent were to small

and only seemed to make the bad people your
enemies laugh as if it had been Apples
that Children were throwing over a garden
Fence ——

We beg Brother you will send your
people over the great water and send a greater
number of them and you will do well
also to send bigger Shells and Balls
that will make greater Holes

We have a Rumour amongst
ourselves Brother that the bad people mean
to come and fight us from our Spring at
Oswego Falls — We hope Brother the King will
rebuild them before you are [illegible] [illegible]
away the Six Nations very much and you will
spoil all their Courage ——

Courage Brother Open your
eyes Brethren of the Six Nations were never
stronger for the King than they are at present
While we see your Soldiers [illegible] we will
not be idle — We are glad to hear that
the Red Men are every where for the King

And you are in good Spirits—

Mother sends you [illegible] and [illegible] many [illegible] things [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] all the [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the spring will produce [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Montreal the 21st Febry 1780

Sir

A number of the Indians of St Regist have applyed to me for Leave to goe towards the Mowhake River to Strike a Blow whereon they might find an Opportunity, But as I have Reason to think that the great object with Some of the Party was to have a talk with the Oneida's, and Consequently to hurt his Majesty's Service more than to forward it, have put them of that project By giving them one, towards fort Edward.

If your Excellency would wish them to Execute any thing

His Excellency
General Haldimand)

(Particular

In that quarter Please to Direct your orders to Lieut Houghton who is to Remain here during my Absence -

I have done Cloathing the Villages Eight days ago Since When I have not Been well Enough to undertake the Journey to Quebec, But will certainly sett out in the Course of this week unless Something Extraordinary prevents me

Monsr Launier Left this Saturday with fourty Young Warriors Able & willing to Follow him

I have the honour to Be with great Respect

Sir

your Excellencys most Obdt
and humble Servant
John Campbell -

(From —— 1st 1780

Lieut. Colonel Campbell

of the 21st Febry. Recd. 23d

Sir

After you leave Point affair you will take the way you Judge most proper for Onion River or thair abouts you will take to the upland and from thence keep under the mountains Steering near South till you get East of Ruttland then Bear to the Eastward till you get about ten Mills South east of Ruttland when you will Cross the head branches of Otter Creek. after you have passed Otter Creek you will Stear South about four or five mils Or thair about when you will Com a Cross the North Branch of west River. follow the Derection of that River till you get to the westward of Kent. But if you Should Lose Sight of west River the Cours from Ruttland to Kent is Sout. by East after you get to the west end of Kent or opposite to what is Called the Glebe mountain in Kent then Mr Samuel Rose & mr ~~[illegible]~~ Buel will Stear west for manchester. then Proceed about two mils South and about a mile & a half west of west River whear you will Cross the Road leading from Kent to Manchester whear you will try to find William Mac who I Supose will assist you but as I have not Seen or heard from him for Soom tim you will be verey Carfull not to Explain your Self to him till you know know he is inclined however I think if he knows you Com from me he will favr your Design —

from

To mr Church & party

That a Committee be appointed to confer with the Commander in Chief on the means of reducing the number of regiments in the army.

That the said Committee in conjunction with the Commander in Chief, be empowered (if a reduction be by them found expedient) to fix the number of regiments to be kept up, and arrange the Officers therein in such manner as they shall judge most conducive to the public good, and to establish the terms on which the officers for whom there are no immediate commands, may be permitted to absent themselves from the army.

That the Committee repair immediately to Head quarters and on their return, report their proceedings to Congress.

That it be recommended to the Governments of the several States to suspend filling up vacancies of officers in their respective lines.[1]

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock on Monday.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1780

A letter, of the 17th, from General Washington, was read:

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War, to whom was referred General Schuyler's letter, of the 5th, brought in a report, which was read; Whereupon,

AT A BOARD OF WAR, *Feby 19. 1780*

Present Col° Pickering, M^r Peters, Col Grayson

The Board having considered Gen^l Schuyler's letter of the 5^th instant, agree in sentiment with the Commissioners of Indian affairs in the Northern department as to the policy of the measures recommended by them with respect to ensuring the performance of any engagements the savages may make, but whether the Indians will deem it politic on their side is yet problematical, as it will have a tendency to embroil them with the Enemy. It therefore seems necessary to give discretionary powers to the Commissioners in this respect, as any plan established here may interfere with circumstances arising in the course of the Treaty. If the Indians can be prevailed on to take an active part with us, it will certainly be the best means of insuring their fidelity to the United States by involving them in our contest and its consequences. But their operations will much depend upon the supplies we give them, and it is a question whether we are able to support them when they throw themselves entirely upon us, if we do not supply them, they may make it a pretext for breaking the Treaty from necessity. But if a Treaty of amity and strict neutrality could be established, we should not be deemed responsible for any supplies farther than was consistent with our convenience and abilities. But this is a matter on which the board do not form any decided opinion, leaving it to the judgment of Congress, and those they have been pleased to entrust with the business.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 147, IV, folio 167. It does not appear to have been acted upon at this time.

They beg leave to report,

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Indian affairs in the Northern department, be authorized and instructed to take such securities from the hostile tribes of Indians ~~and fall upon such methods~~ to insure the faithful performance of their engagements ~~the savages may make at any treaty entered into with them by~~ with the said commissioners ~~for establishing peace and friendship between the said Indians and the inhabitants of these States, as to them shall seem best adapted to circumstances~~ as seem most conducive to the end proposed ~~without confining themselves to any particular method or measure heretofore pointed out by Congress for that purpose~~, in lieu of hostages.

That a Warrant issue on the Treasurer in favor of the pay master of the Board of War and Ordnance for the sum of dollars to be transmitted to the commissioners of Indian affairs in the Northern department for the purpose of defraying the expence of an expected Treaty with the hostile Tribes of Savages, and for rewarding by proper presents the Oneidas and Tuscarurraes who have continued faithfully attached to the interest of these States.[1]

Ordered, That the last paragraph of the report, relative to an advance of money for the purpose of defraying the expence of an expected Treaty with the hostile tribes of Indians, be referred to the Board of Treasury.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 147, IV, folio 171.

The report of the Board of War on the letter from Colonel White was read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the promotion of the artillery and horse be determined by the rules executed with regard to the infantry; and that no promotions to the rank of colonel, either in the artillery or cavalry, be made on vacancies.

Another report from the Board of War was read; Whereupon,

AT A BOARD OF WAR, *Feb:* 15. 1780

Present M^r. Peters Col Grayson

The Board having rec^d. frequent applications for commissions from the Aides de Camp who were appointed previous to the resolution of May the 27^th. 1778, were induced to write a letter to Gen^l. Washington on the subject. They take the liberty to enclose his Excellency's answer and beg leave to report

Resolved, That all aids de camp now in service, who were appointed before the 27th of May, 1778, and are not admissible into any state line, receive commissions agreeably to the rank they are entitled to, under the resolution of June 5th, 1776; the commissions to bear the dates of their appointments.[1]

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee for estimating supplies, and in debating the following paragraph, viz. "West India rum good proof one dollar and one half per gallon."

A motion was made by Mr. [Nathaniel] Peabody, seconded by Mr. [George] Partridge, to strike out the words, "one dollar and an half," and in lieu thereof, insert "two dollars ~~and an half~~."

On the question shall the words moved to be struck out stand, the yeas and nays were required by Mr. [Nathaniel] Peabody,

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 147, IV, folio 151.

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Peabody,	no	no
Folsom,	no	
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Holten	no	no
Partridge,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	no	no
Collins,	no	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Huntington,	no	no
Sherman,	ay	
Ellsworth,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Floyd,	ay	ay
L'Hommedieu,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Fell,	ay	ay
Clark,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Searle,	ay	ay
Muhlenberg,	ay	
McLene,	ay	
Shippen,	ay	
Delaware,		
Mr. McKean,	——	
Maryland,		
Mr. Plater,	ay	ay
Forbes,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Griffin	no	no
North Carolina,		
Mr. Penn,	ay	ay
Burke,	ay	
Jones,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Mathews,	ay	ay

So it passed in the affirmative.

"Best alum, or rock salt, per bushel, three dollars."

A motion was made by Mr. [James] Forbes, seconded by Mr. [George] Plater, to strike out "three dollars."

On the question shall the words moved to be struck out stand,

The yeas and nays were required by Mr. [James] Forbes,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Peabody,	no	no
Folsom,	no	
Massachusetts Bay,		
Mr. Holten,	ay	div.
Partridge,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	ay
Collins,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Huntington,	ay	ay
Sherman,	ay	
Ellsworth,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Floyd,	ay	ay
L'Hommedieu,	ay	

New Jersey,			*Virginia,*		
Mr. Fell,	ay	ay	Mr. Griffin,	ay	ay
Clark,	ay		*North Carolina,*		
Pennsylvania,			Mr. Burke,	ay	ay
Mr. Searle,	ay	ay	Jones,	ay	
Muhlenberg,	ay		*South Carolina,*		
McLene,	ay		Mr. Mathews,	ay	ay
Shippen,	ay				
Maryland,					
Mr. Plater,	no	no			
Forbes,	no				

So it passed in the affirmative.

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1780[1]

A letter from Major General Greene, of February 16th, was read:[2]

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on his letter of the 12th December last.

A letter, of this day, from Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, was read; Whereupon,[3]

A motion was made by Mr. [Roger] Sherman, seconded by Mr. [James] McLene, in the words following;

Resolved, That when any member thinks himself aggrieved, or his privilege infringed by anything said, or done in the House, he may state the matter in his place and have the sense of Congress taken thereon, in preference to any other business.

Upon which it was moved by Mr. [John] Penn, seconded by Mr. [Roger] Sherman, to strike out the words "in preference to any other business."

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[1] From this point the entries are in Thomas Edison's writing.

[2] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 155, I, folio 208.

[3] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 78, X, folio 205.

Carleton Island 23d Feby
1780

Dear Sir

I have transmitted to Colonel ampbell, a Meſsage from the Indians here dreſsed to you and the Colonel in order to be ommunicated to His Excellency together with a ring of Wampum —

I have a particular satisfaction acquainting you Sir, that no people ca ay more attention to their duty than the fficers of the Six Nation Department have done and their attention had the good ffect of keeping the Indians orderly and satisfyd — I never knew them to seem better disposed than they are at present — There is a Strong Scout going in a few days with Lt. Crawford to the Mohawk River — almost all the Missisaguais go with him

Your Message with the News was communicated to the Indians by Captt Tice, and it gave them much satisfaction we eagerly wait for a further Confirmation of it.

I inclose you Sir a letter from Miss Molly Brant, who has shewen her usual Zeal for Govt. by her constant indeavours to maintain the Indians in His Majestys Interest — I wish you would find an occasion of putting His Excellency in mind of her numerous family — I have wrote to the General to acquain

continued p. 179

See p. 180 for beginning

him of the assistance she gave in keeping the Indians orderly and well disposed & I have done all that lay in my power to make their quarters agreeable to Her and her family

I hope Sir when you have any favorable News that you will communicate it to the Indians here as it cannot fail of having a good effect

I am Sir with much Esteem
Your most obed.t &
Most humble Serv.t
A. Fraser

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

Little French John has been exceedingly usefull this winter and I wish to recommend his family which is at Montreal to your goodness

From Captn Fraser
Carltn Isld 23. Febry 80.
recd at Quebec 12 March

1780

replacing him, & said they would use all Dispatch to get away as soon as they could.

March 1st. Gorondunquat of Onandagoe came and brought a Scalp which he said he had taken last Fall, and gave it to Colo. Johnson to make what Use he thought proper of it. He requested a Little Liquor, but as that Article is stoped for some Days on Account of the Parties going out, he was told his Request could not be complied with at present, & the Reason of it

At Night Kiashota arrived with ~~34 Delawares~~ 22 Delawares Men & 12 Women, & nine Senecas, in all 43 ~~Others~~, and waited upon Colo. Johnson. He said he had many Things to say respecting himself & his Transactions during the present War & the Light in which he had been considered, which he wished to do in Public as soon as it was convenient to Colo. Johnson, & would be glad to have Major Butler Present, when he would produce his Testimonials & Authorities. He brought a Letter from Lt. Johnston who writes that Kiashota has something of Importance to say which he does not choose to communi-

cate

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cate to any Person but Col.o Johnson.

Col.o Johnson after complimenting him as is usual, appointed Tomorrow for a Meeting with him & his People
& wished him to come before them that they might confer previous to the Meeting

Last Night the Chief of the Shawanese was killed in a Dispute with another Indian, who was himself put to Death immediately after by the Chiefs Son.

Thursday March 2d. In the Morning Col. Johnson rec.d a Letter from Capt Brant dated 25th ulto. from the Carrying place he having been detained by a Severe fit of Illness which many of them lay under particularly Tagaanya the Chief of [illegible] but was determined to leave them & prosecute his Journey and in the Name of the Chiefs recommended attention & assistance to their familys in their absence. Soon after Thayashota with a Chief Warrior waited on Col.o Johnson when the former told him that he apprehended his people would not be able to Meet in Council this day as the Chief of the Delawares was gone to the Shawanese Camp to attend their Ceremonys on acco.t of the Sudden death of the Shawanese Chief before mentioned who was his near relation however Thayashota after some discourse proposed to communicate [illegible] by Col.o Johnson, and first produced his Sev.l Credentials from the Gov.r of Pennsylvania the late S.r W. Johnson & Col. Johnson with the Medals he had received; Then recounted his having proceeded

to

1d

to Chenkoghsangughta Vil. on Ohio, In consequence of the
directions he had recd. last fall from Col. Johnson and
used his endeavors to collect the prisoners which they were
prevented from doing on acct. of the Uncommon Severity of
the Weather but that they were all ready to Comply with
what had been asked, and happy to find him again in
their Neighbourhood, that agreeable to wt. Col. Johnson
had recommended, they had sent partys to look out
towds. Ft. Pittsburg, & wou'd report their remarks, –
That he had heard that the Huron
Chippewighs &   had sent belts & Messages to
advise the Delawares to leave that Country (their Villages
having been destroy'd last year by 1500. Virginians) & to Come
into their Neighbourhood where they wou'd live at peace &
that some of them had heard it met Col. Johnsons approbn.
but that the Delawares spoke to Kayashota about it &
agreed firmly to reject all such proposals & to abide by their
Uncles, the 5 Natns. & to take Col. Johnson farther
advice respecting their conduct, — That the Delawares
had been informed that those of their people at Niagara
had been defrauded in their proportions of Cloathing and
provisions by the rest of the Inds. & that in Consequence
thereof they Col. Johnson had told them to apply to him & he
wou'd redress them, & that he had farther heard that the
Virginians proposed to make one Exped. to Presqu' Isle

&

& to cut off Kadarojaras & another against Detroit, adding that the warriors did not mean to remain long but to go & get Satisfaction if Col^o Johnson approved it, & that the Numb^r of Seneca Warriors there were above 60, and about 120 or 30 Delawares fit for Service, Then Shewed the Old belt they had rec^d from the late Sir Wm Johnson for managing Affairs in that Quarter, & that he had likewise rec^d the same from Col. Johnson; then gave 3 strings which had been [illegible] by the Delawares, of which he [illegible] Col^o. Johnson approved much of his Candour in this Communication & expressed great satisfaction that he had observed the ancient customs. Said that he had seen some Speeches that came from the Westward & Southward but none respecting the invitation to the Delawares, that he was well pleased they rejected, as it wou'd be abandoning their Lands & Seperating them from their Uncles the 6 Nations, a Circumstance he cou'd never encourage, as on the Contrary he was taking infinite pains to strengthen their Hands & Collect all their Confederates & Dependants to together so as to act with one Spirit in the Things being regulated by the true old System they were [illegible] That the General had recommended that those who had lost their Habitations shou'd settle in some Convenient places where they might be supplied with some things for planting & that the Neighbourhood of Kanadasero was on Acco^t. of Soil & Situat^n. well calculated for the Upper Senecas & Ohio Delawares, That the latter and some of the rest had at some times complained about Provis^ns. which cou'd not arrive in Suffic^t. Quantity before the Winter for so great a Number, but that no one Nation cou'd wrong another in that, or Cloathing &c^a. as he had divided the Ind^s. into Comp^ys. appoint^g. Captains & Lieut^s. to each who saw their Divisions properly supplied & also attended Col Johnson respect^g. all their Affairs. — That he well knew the Merits of his friend Skayashota & how he had been Employ'd & esteemed by S^r. W^m. Johnson & himself That he meant to renew & strengthen all past Engagem^ts. with him, on the Sev^l. Letters & Testimonials, & as a proof of his regard he recounted to him the Heads of what he propos'd to say to the Ind^s. when they met, & wou'd strengthen his String thereupon — after which he told him & that his former knowledge of his Friend & ~~from~~ the good Character he had given him ~~he wou'd~~ ~~and~~ [illegible] were such strong recommendations that he wou'd give him some fresh marks of regard, & accordingly gave him a pair of handsome Silver Armbands, & put a Gorget about his Neck, & returned his Medal to be worn as formerly by Skayashota.

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Friday March 3d 1780 –

In the Morning Kayashota with the Chiefs of his party arrived, and soon after Sayengaraghta came from [illegible] & was called in –

At a Meeting with Kayashota Chief of the Senecas of Ohio & the other Chiefs of that Nation & of the Delawares. – Present.

Col. Guy Johnson Superintendt &c
Major Butler
John Dease Esqr D. Agent
Captn Powell, Lt Dachstedter & other Officers
Mr Cartwright Secy –

N. Stevens – }
A V. Dusbergh } Intprs

Col. Johnson first addressed the Chiefs expressing his satisfaction, that they were all met in health at this time, and that he was much concerned at the late death of the Shawanese Chief their Relation who was killed in a dispute with another Indian, and that therefore according to the Antient Custom he would proceed to perform the Ceremony of Condolance for the same, that they might once more look up & attend to Business. –

Then went thro' the Ceremony of Condolance
First with the Chiefs, & gave 3 Strings. –
Then with the Warriors 3 Strings. – –

After which Col. Johnson addressed them –

Brothers, I am now happy that [illegible] at [illegible] Fort [illegible] We are now enabled to open our Hearts to each other & therefore I bid you hearty Wellcome to this [illegible] where I had sent Matters to tell you, that has happened in your absence – then proceeded to relate the Transactions, with the Rebel Ind. & [illegible]

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Then Kayashota on behalf of the rest told Col Johnson, That they had heard with Satisfaction what I had said & had nothing farther particular to mention on their parts, on which Col Johnson proceeded to speak on what had been Commun^d. the day before as follows.

Brothers, the Sixnat^n Chiefs, & you the Delaware Chiefs their Nephews; You have just heard me relate every thing of Consequence that has happened here during the Winter, I have not omitted any Thing as Friends and Brothers should always communicate ~~to~~ eachother without Reserve whatever comes to their Knowledge. —

Brothers! I was informed yesterday, that our Brothers the Delawares had received Belts & Messages from the Hurons Chipawas & advising them to remove & settle amongst them, ~~as they found that the Place they were at Present settled at was liable to be insecure, & liable to be disturbed by the Incursions of the Rebels, but it~~ and was much surprised to hear that I was mentioned as countenancing & approving this Measure. On the Contrary it has always been my Wish & Endeavour, to draw together

the

Six Nations & their Dependants, thereby to strengthen their Han and to make them both more respectable to their Friends & formidable to their Enemies, which it was more likely they would be when they were all in a Body than if they were scattered in different Places, & besides it would be like giving up their Lands to the Rebels.

Brother!

The General has recommended it to those wh have lost their Habitations to settle in some other more convenient Places, where he shall be able to support them in Case of Danger & send them proper Supplies; and has promised to provide them with some Hoes, & every other necessary Implement of Husbandry to cultivate their Fie with, and as ~~Canamagoras~~ Kadaragoras which borders upon Lake Erie is conveniently situated, & the Soil fertile, th it a very proper Place for the Senecas & Delawares of the to settle at. — What has been said about the Delawar at this Place that as many of them have ~~having~~ been defrauded of their Provisio & Cloathing by the other Nations must have arisen from mistake, as no Nation can interfere with another & as I have divided all the Indians here into Companies, & appointed proper Officers to take Care of them, and see them properly supplied with every Thing neces

Complaints indeed have some Times been made about Provisions which could not be brought over last Fall in sufficient Quantity to supply all the Indians as I could have wished; but they have had an equal Proportion with any of the Rest, and you shall always find me disposed to act with Strict Impartiality to every Nation. –

Brother!

I am glad you have consulted me about the Messages & Belts you received, inviting you to leave your Country & the Six Nations. I would not have you pay any Regard to it, as I wish you well & would be sorry to see you do a Thing that would be of so much Prejudice to the Indian Confederacy. Sir William Johnson my Predecessor always wished to have you in a Body because he had a great Regard for you; I mean to tread in his Footsteps as far as Circumstances will allow, and wish you to settle in some Place where you will be out of the Way of Bad-Birds & will hear Nothing but Truth, and think that the Neighbourhood of Kadaragaras which I mentioned to you before will be very proper. – I have now said every Thing that occurred to me at Present of what was told me upon these Strings Yesterday, and you may depend upon it you will find

191 every Thing I advise you to, to be for your Advantage.

Gave back the three Strings. —

Brothers! (as a proof of my approbation of what you mentioned in those string[s] will give you [illegible] to your prosperity, ments added) in order to strengthen what I have now said, as well as to renew and comfirm all former Engagements entered into with you both by Sir William Johnson & myself I give you this Belt, which I desire you to preserve, & look at it often in Order to remind you, how closely you are connected by the most solemn Treaties & engagements with your Father the great King of England. That you should alwa[ys] adhere closely to your Confederacy & keep your fires in this fireplace by which you'll be guided a[nd] may by true Councils, & [illegible] ye shall always find your friend [illegible] I likewise advise you to keep a strong good look out tow.ds Fort Pitt & ~~shall~~ shall always be ready to assist your Warriors who are most zealous. —

Gave a white Belt with G. I. at one End.

Kiashota replied in the Name ~~of the Belt~~, that they had heard with Satisfaction every Thing that Col.o Johnson had said, but as ~~they~~ the Delawares did not thoroughly understand it, they would take the Belt with them to their Camp, & have it properly explained to them, & give their Answer Tomorrow.

They however sat some Time, and before they went told Col.o Johnson that they had kept a watchful Eye towards Fort Pitt as he recommended, & intended soon to go out against the Enemy but as they were in Want of many Things hoped their Wants would be considered & supplied, and requested also to le furnished with Hoes as soon as possible that they might begin to plant their Corn in Time. - They said also they were bringing in some Prisoners as had been recommended to them by Colo. Johnson, but they were obliged to leave them at Kadaragaras till the Weather grew more favorable for Travelling. - Colo. Johnson told them their Wants should be attended to, and supplied as far as was in his Power.

In the afternoon Abeel's Son called Kayentaghte, Chief of Canawagoras, came & spoke to Colo. Johnson upon three Strings. He said as it had been recommended to them last Fall to go out a Hunting & endeavour to support themselves as far as they were able on Account of the Scarcity of Provisions, he had taken his People all back to their Village where there was still some Corn left, tho most of it had been consumed last Summer by the White People; that they had remained there as long as they had any Thing to subsist upon, and were now come in & hoped they would be properly considered: their Number he said was Sixty seven.

Colo. Johnson thanked him for having so well followed his Advice & promised that his People should be properly taken Care of. & that he wou'd meet them the next day when previous to entering on business he wod. relieve their Minds by Condoling for the Loss of their late Chief. -

and desired that the Meeting with his People might be put off till Tomorrow.

At Night the Bunt's Son, so long expected, arrived and after some little Equivocation Colo. Johnson put him ordered him ~~off till Tomorrow~~. provisions & directed him to Call the Next day.

Monday 6th. The Delawares with Kiashota met Colo. Johnson this Morning, & spoke to him as follows.

Brother!

What you said to us at our last Meeting was very agreeable, & we shall attend to your Words and lay them up in our Hearts, & be guided by them. We have endeavoured to trace the Report of your having approved of the Proposal made to us to remove from our Lands, but cannot find where it originated; but we are now certain that it is false, & shall follow your Advice, and not remove to any Distance from our former Settlements.

Brother!

We delivered up three Prisoners last Year at the Request of Colo. Bolton & Major Butler for which we were promised three Pawnees from Detroit, but

have

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have not yet received any Compensation for them, and we were also promised something for taking up a Negroe Boy last Summer which we have never received.

Col^o. Johnson told them he was glad to hear the Resolution they were come to; that he would enquire into the Matter respecting the Prisoners, and Major Butler coming in at that Time explained it to him, and he them promised to satisfy them on that Head. He also told them that as soon as he was a little more at Leisure he would dismiss them that they might return to their Families.

A Meeting was likewise held in the Afternoon wh Col^o. Johnson performed the Ceremony of Condoleance f Kyentagete [illegible] Chief of Canawagaras and old Montou with three Strings of Wampum, then covered the Graves of each with a Belt, & also a Black Stroud & Shirt.— Thanks were returned him in the usual Form, & he then informed the Indians of Cannawagoras briefly of the Proceedings with the four Rebel Indians, referring him for a minute Detail to Sayangaraghta. The

then

He also told them that in a Day or two he would see and have their Wants properly supplied.

He also had a Meeting with Kakayedoris, or the Bunts Son and the Principal People of his Party. That Chief told him he wished to be looked upon as a steady Friend & Well-wisher to the King & his Cause, but as there were some Circumstances that might appear unfavorable to his Character he begged Leave to explain them, which he hoped he should be able to do, to Col.o Johnson's Satisfaction. He said when the Rebels came to cut off the Onandagoe Village last Spring, as soon as they heard of their Approach the Warriors resolved to make a Shew of Resistance, that their Women & Children might have Time to make their Escape; but the Enemy came upon them so suddenly & surrounded them that they could not put their Plan in Execution, but were obliged to make a precipitate Retreat, when near an hundred of their People, chiefly Women & Children fell into the Hands of the Rebels & were carried off Prisoners to Albany: that they were informed ~~that~~ the only Way to ~~save their Lives~~ prevent them from being put to Death would be for them to go to Canajo-

harie

197 havie among the Oneydas, & that perhaps by this Means they might even procure their Releasement. From the Oneyda Village they were told they must go to Fort Stanwix wh they were told that Nothing could be done in the Matter till Application should be made to the Congress wh they were encouraged to expect would allow the Prisoners their Liberty, that, in the mean Time, if they (Kekayeda's People) remained quietly at the Oneyda Village, no Violence should be offered to the Prisoners, but the contr was threatened if they did not. He said that having been put off from Time to Time upon various Pretences he at Length saw that Nothing was to be expected from their Stay & therefore he and many others resolved to come off & join the Rest of the Indians who were Friends to the King as they had always been in their Hearts; that accordingly they left Oneyda in   last, and the Day after they sat out were overtaken by some Oneydas who intreated them in vain to return, & the Day after another Party came up with & threatened them which made some of his People turn back, but that he told them he would persist in his Resolution & was determined to defend him self

if they offered to interrupt [illegible]: that as the Weather was severely cold & he had many Women & Children with him he could travel but slowly, & that he also grew lame and some of his People were taken sick which stopt them for a long Time, but that he had made no unnecessary Delays, & hoped now they were come in they would be looked upon & treated ~~as~~ like what they really were, and always had been, Friends to the King. The Care he had taken to preserve the Belts which were the Records of all their Engagements & Transactions with the King he said would further confirm what he had said; that he had already sent in the greatest Number of these to be disposed of as Colo. Johnson thought proper, and that he now brought three others which had been given by him to Sir Wm. Johnson, & delivered them up to him. — The one was a black Belt of thirteen Rows, called the Covenant Chain Belt, with seven White Lozinges, one for each of the Nations in the Confederacy, and one representing the King. — Another was a black Belt of 11 Rows which had been given to the Indians in the French War to Assure them

199 of the Aſsistance of the Militia if they shou'd be attacked, and the Number of Leaders that were to head them were represented in white Wampum. — The other was a Belt of nine Rows given him by Colo. Johnson & had his Seal affixed to ~~the~~ one End of it.

Colo. Johnson told him that for his Part he was inclined to believe that what he said was true, and hoped he would take the earliest Opportunity to convince and satisfy every Body that he was sincere, and remove any ill Impreſsions that his Conduct might have made while his Motives for it were unknown.

Tuesday 7th. This Morning Col. Johnson after an Exhortation, gave a Gorget to Kayentaghte, or Abeels son that he might appear in Character, who recommended to him Tsoandanawias.. as his Second, on whom he also conferred a Gorget, for which they both returned Thanks, and made many Profeſsions, of Friendship that they wou'd always follow his advice. —
Colo. Johnson then told them he woud cloathe their people within three days. -

Sowhachgas was appointed Chief of the Mohegans in the Room of Deeoyan lately killed.

Wednes

[Copy No. 1 1780

To Major De Peyster
of the 12th February —

Copy

Entered in book marked B. No. 1

Page 13

Detroit the 8 March 1780

Sir

I think it necessary to send this express by land, to acquaint your Excellency, with my having receiv'd a letter from Mons.r Louis Chevallier of St Josephs, (brought by his Son Aimable) acquainting me with the rebels having totally evacuated the Illenois country. Thirty Indians, also arrived from the Ouiat, and Post Vincent, in Consequence of my Invitation they are now on their way back, having promised that the rebels shall not recross the Wabash.

Lieut Caldwell, of the Kings Regt, Captain McKee, Mr Elliot, The three Girtys, and about fifty Indians, consisting of the Principal Chiefs of the Mingoes, Shawaneese, and Delaw. are also arrived, who report that the rebels failed in their attempt to establish a Fort at Cooshocking, but that they had quite surrounded the Indidean Hunting ground of Kintuck, by having built small forts at two days Journey from each other, as will appear by the Indian Map of that country.

The Indians further say that the rebels intend to cross the Ohio in the spring, and build a fort at two days Journey from their Principal Village, on the Little Miami. They therefore require of their Father to fulfill the promise made by former Commandants, who assured them, ~~that~~ when the Enemy should approach their Villages, Troops should be sent to their Assistance, they produced Lt Gov.r Hamiltons Belt and other strings to this Effect, as a proof of their assertion, saying that it was now time to fulfill the promise, or they would be shortly under the disagreeable Necessity of falling back, and thereby become a burthen to their Father, or else ~~quit~~ quit their ground, and go to the Southward.

To His Excelly.
The Comm.r in Chief

The Principal chiefs of the Hurons, Pottawatamies, Chippewas, Ottawas, Ouiachtanons, Miamis, Ouiats and the Piorias, with the Keekapoos, being present in Council, declared, that, If I would send a few soldiers till a larger body could be spared, they would all rise and assist their Elder brothers, and act in Conjunction in future, for the good of the Kings Service. I see the necessity of sending some Soldiers & I therefore propose to send one Captain one Lieut., and about fifty men, with two small pieces of ordinance to help them to knock down the Pickets of the first Fort. To this Party I shall add all the Indian Officers, and as many Volunteers as may offer, from the Settlement -- this may for a while keep up the Spirits of the Indians, till Your Excellency's pleasure is further known. Their route shall be up the Glaise, and &c down the Great Miami, to the Ohio -- I flatter myself that this early movement If accompanied by the Great number of Savages I expect -- will facilitate Lt Gov Sinclairs Partys in their enterprises down the Mississippi: divert the ~~attention~~ of many from Niagara, and be of some use to B. Genl. Campbell, If he has not already taken New Orleans. The Wabash Indians and some from Michilimakinack have promised to amuse Mr. Clark at the falls. I wait till the mouth of the Miami is clear from Ice to send off this Party.

An Express is arrived from Michilima which I have the honour to forward.

I am Sir
with Great respect
Your Excellency's
Most Hum & Obedt
Servt
At: S: DePeyster

Monday 13th. Kiashota & the Delawares met Colo. Johnson to Day

Present.

Colo. Johnson Supt.
Major Butler } Depy. Agents
Mr. Dease — } Depy. Agents
Captn. Johnston

Lieut. Younge
Lieut. Dockstader
R. Cartwright Secy.
Michl. Stevens Interpr.

When they were all assembled & seated Chief of the Delawares addressed Colo. Johnson as follows.

Brother!

At our last Meeting a few Days ago you recommended it to us to be closely united & to settle together in one Place. We thank you for this good Advice which we approve of & mean to follow, and in Order that we may be safe and out of all Danger of being disturbed by the Rebels, we ~~think~~ intend crossing the Lake, & settling somewhere near Fort Erie, both we from this, & also our Brothers from Shimong & other Places on the Susquehanna. Gave three Strings. —

Brother!

We mean to cross over and settle on some con

venient Place near Fort Erie as early as we can, and we hope th
you will approve of this Step, and assist us with Provisi
ons and other Neccessaries.
Gave a white Belt. —

Kiashota then spoke, & desired that Colo. Johnson would
order ~~them~~ the Provisions & other Things necessary to
carry them back to their Village to be got ready for the
to Day, as they would wish to ~~set~~ off on their Return
Tomorrow.

Colo. Johnson after some Conference with Mr. Dease
& Major Butler replied as follows!

Brothers!

As I always wish to be clearly & exactly underst
in what I say, I shall now repeat some part of what I mention
ed to you at our last Meeting which you seem to have m
apprehended. I then told you that I was glad to find that
you had rejected the Proposals of the western Indians an
recommended it to you not to leave your Country, but to
settle all together in some more convenient Part of your
own Lands, & to remain closely attached & united to
the *Six Nations*, as I looked upon Union among your

to be a Matter of Course

Brothers!

As you propose to croſs the Lake and remove out of your own Country I cannot give you an immediate Answer as it is a Matter that requires Consideration; but I shall lay it before your Uncles the Six Nations and consult with them upon it, but this need not detain you, as I shall send their Answer & my own to you as soon as poſsible, & in the mean Time I request that you will take no further Steps in Regard of this Matter till you hear from us:—As to what you request with Respect to Provisions & Neceſsaries, you may depend upon always being properly supplied so long as you continue attached to the King & the Six Nations. ——

He then gave the Delaware Chief a black Belt of 8 Rows with G.I on one End, telling him that as he had lost several of his Friends he gave him that Belt to deliver to some principal Warrior of his Nation, to get him a Prisoner that he might put in the Place of some of them.—He then told them that every Thing should be in Readineſs for them this Evening as, since they had reced their Cloathing, the Rest would take up but little Time

The Delaware Chief returned Colᵒ. Johnson many Thanks in the Name of his Nation for what he had sᵈ. in his Speech to them, and for giving him the Belt; he said it would give them additional Spirit and he hoped they would soon have it in their Power to send him a Prisoner. — They then broke up, after receiving a Dram each. —

A Testimonial was made out for Kiashuta, the Silver Works & other Things given to his Son.

Soon after ~~Sagoghquas~~ the Chief from Canawagy with his People waited on Colᵒ. Johnson, & mentioned the Loſses they had sustaine by the Destruction of their Village and hoped that their Wants would be considered, at the same Time said, that as soon as they returned they would go & take Revenge of the Enemy — Colᵒ. Johnso told them he had been informed of their Good Behaviour, and also the Loſses they had met with, and that he wou endeavour to make them some Amends by considering and supplying their Wants from Time to Time. — The

after

approved much of the Spirit & Zeal they testified, & as they had not been at this Place since his Arrival, he mentioned ~~some of~~ in a summary Manner the Heads of the Intelligence of most Importance, & told them their [illegible] should be immediately supplied, & that he would be glad to see them Tomorrow Morning previous to their setting off on their Return, which they said they wished to do as soon as possible. And after a Dram a piece they took their Leave for the Present.

Soon after [illegible]sdageghte alias the Spruce Carrier came in with his People, and after the usual Complements Col.o Johnson told them that he would order them some Liquor & Provisions to refresh themselves with for the present & would meet them on Business Tomorrow if he could dispatch the People from this Time enough.

Tuesday 14.th The Delaware Chiefs called upon Col.o Johnson this Morning, who gave each of them a Black Stroud, a laced Hat & Feather, a Shirt, a Pair of Scarlet Leggins, & a

Laced

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Laced

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Laced Hat & some small Silver Works. Their Names are Kaind-koant, Waungomant, Waughalaypous, Totetawwacke, Shemaun & Nechshapash. – The Belt which Colo. John-son gave them Yesterday was entrusted to this last, ~~and~~ to whom he also gave a Gorget, & to three of the others a Pair of Arm Bands each over and above the other Things; he also gave them forty Dollars for a Woman & a Child which they have brought to Kadaragoras in order to deliver them up.

Colo. Johnson then gave them some cautionary Ad-vice, shook them by the Hand & wished them a pleasant Journey Home. – They returned him many Thanks, and desired that ~~Nothing might~~ he would not let any Uneasiness remain on his Mind in Regard of them, as they were determined always to look up to him & the Six Nati-ons; and took their Leave, to all Appearance highly satisfied.

The Seneca Chiefs from Canawagy on the Ohio came soon ~~about to take~~ after ~~their Leave~~, when Colo. Johnson gave Gagosaguaigo, a black Belt with 8 Rows, in Order to get a Prisoner to replace

Brother to Tenendagaghte alias the Spruce Carr

Carrachadeia. He also gave the same Person a Gorget, and a full Suit such as is usually given to Chiefs to him & his Companion, Ganagoenyat, after which they took their Leave well satisfied.

In the Afternoon Col^o. Johnson had some Conversation with Sayangaraghta, wherein he let him know that he intended to hold a general Meeting with the Six Nations in five or Six Days for the Purpose of renewing past Engagements, and of confirming some past Transactions. Sayangaraghta said he thought it would be very proper, and declared that after that Meeting was ended he would be ready to act in any Manner that Col^o. Johnson should direct.

Wednesday 15th. In the Morning [illegible]nendageghta alias the Spruce-Carrier came with some of his People. Col^o. Johnson first performed the Ceremony of Condoleance as is usual on these Occasions, after bidding them welcome and gave three Strings. He then told them that as they had been particularly informed by Sayangaraghta of the Message from the Rebel Indians,

and

Soon after Abeel's Son came to whom Colo. Johnson gave also a Coat & Waistcoat, a fine Shirt & a Pair of Arm Bands with some Presents for his Wife. - He was exceedingly pleased with this Mark of Distinction, and said they had often been told by Major Butler that when Col. Johnson arrived he would make them Amends for their Trouble and Fatigue, that he found now that he had told them the Truth and that they were made very happy by what he had done for them.

Thursday 23d. In the Morning Col. Johnson met Kayashota and had a long Conference with him, in which he assured the latter of his sincere regard & that he wished on all occasions to Consult him, as Sir Wm Johnson had done, that he shortly meant to hold a General Meeting, & only waited for the recovery of Seyenqueraghta when he would renew & Strengthen past Transactions, & was glad to find Kayashota waited for it as he could deliver the particulars faithfully to his people. That to defray his occasional Expences he would allow him 50, or 60 Dollars this Year, That he now had prepared a full Testimonial ~~of~~ wherein he had enumerated all his past Services & recommended him to proper Attention & that as a farther proof of his Esteem he now gave him a few presents, &c.

For himself a new Scarlet Vest Laced with Gold Lace a Hat, Scarlet Leggings
A fine Shirt, a pair of Shoes & Buckles, Gorget, Arm & Wrist Bands
for his Wife a Black Strowd & Stockings, a Shift, A large Silver Cross, Wrist Bands
Ear bobs & Broaches with Scarlet Leggings & Ribband, bedding

Adding that he now took him by the Hand in Confirmation of the
friendship subsisting between them, which he wou'd endeavour to
keep [illegible] by. for all which Thegashota made a [illegible] acknowledgements,
& gave several Assurances of regard & [illegible]. —

Col.o Johnson rec.d a Message from Sagingaragton that
he was something better but unable yet to leave the Camp
Col.o Johnson then gave a Shift & some Silver Trinkets
to ~~[illegible]~~ Uncle Dick the Messengers daughter, &
we promis'd to send a boat for Sagingaragton tomorrow.

Cacadore of Onondaga with his principal fellows next
called upon Col.o Johnson, who told him that he was not
unmindfull of them, but had so many parties to [illegible]
&c. that he was obliged to postpone entering on the subject
of their both for a few days which was of little Conse-
-quence as they remained here; but he had [illegible] for
them tomorrow, They returned thanks & then they
acquainted Col.o Johnson that they had put themselves
under Cacadores direction who wou'd attend to their
business, of which Col.o Johnson approved giving him a
Charge upon the occasion, & dismissed them with some
Paint & an order for 2 Gall.s of Rum. —

Kaghnawidea next visited Col.o Johnson who presented him
with a ~~[illegible]~~ new Scarlet Coat, & Epaulet, a pair of Silver Arm
bands, some [illegible] a fine Shirt, Scarlet Leggins &c. ~~[illegible]~~
~~his Neck which was formerly presented him by His Majesty~~ and
gave him his Testimonials. —

Friday 24th. This Morning five Onandagoes came and told Colo. Johnson, that tho they had been twice fitted out to go to War, yet they had hitherto been prevented from going by some unlucky Circumstance or other intervening: that however they meant to shew that they had not been kept back through Fear, and were now determined to go to the Frontier Parts of Virginia and bring him a Letter (meaning a Prisoner). They said as they had been fitted out before they had Nothing now to ask but some Ammunition & a little Liquor. — Colo. Johnson told them he wished for their own Credit that they had gone out before; that he could say but little to People circumstanced as they were, but if they really were in earnest he heartily wished them Succeſs.

This Morning also Colo. Johnson sent a Boat for Sayangaraghta who came and held a long Conference with him on the Subject of the intended Meeting, wherein Colo. Johnson communicated to him the Heads of what he intended to say to the Indians, which was much approved of by the other, and it was settled between them to have the Meeting on the 27th.

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27th Inst. - Col. Johnson also paid him 50 Dollars, the Half of his
Yearly Pension allowed him by Government, which he recei-
ved with many Thanks. - It was also agreed upon, with him
to send for a Rebel Indian, who is in the Indian Camp, a
Col. Johnson went to this Bay
and examine him in his Presence.
found. Some The Rebel Indian was sent for this Morning but could not be
Saturday 28th Cakadorie a Seneca Chief came in [illegible]
Col. Johnson that as this Indian [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] find him.
~~having come.~~ It seems he is on Onondagoe and Cakadori
to find him out and bring him to Col. Johnson Tomorrow
promises ~~he shall appear tomorrow~~. - At this Visit he de-
livered up to Col. Johnson seven Belts, that had been sent
to the Six Nations, at different Times, by the Rebels. -

The one is a large white Belt of 15 Rows, with two Rows of
black Wampum running through it, so as to divide it in three
equal Parts, the middle of which represents a Road, and on
each side are seven Large Squares. - On this Belt the
Rebels first spoke to the Six Nations 1775, expressing their de-
sire that the Path through the Country of the Six Nations
might be kept clear, and no Blood be spilt on it; decla-
ring that it was their Intention not to spill any. -

Another was a small black Belt of 7 Rows, by which the
Rebels declared to the Six Nations that such great Prisoners

219.

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Col. Johnson was told to Day

and examine him in his Presence.

found. Son of the The Rebel Indian was sent for this Morning but could not be

Saturday 25th. Cakadorice or the Counts Son came in and told

Col. Johnson that as this Indian is sometimes at the [illegible]

~~[illegible]~~

fat ~~that of the~~ Tascarores, at each of which he has a Wife, it does not [illegible] to

~~[illegible]~~ find him.

~~having come.~~ It seems he is an Onandagoe and Cakadorice

to find him out if he can send him to ~~Col. Johnson~~ Tomorrow

promises ~~he shall appear Tomorrow~~ - At this Visit he de livered up to Col. Johnson seven Belts, that had been sent to the Six Nations, at different Times, by the Rebels. —

The one is a large white Belt of 16 Rows, with two Rows of black Wampum running through it, so as to divide it in three equal Parts, the middle of which represents a Road, and on each Side are seven large Squares. - On this Belt the Rebels first spoke to the Six Nations 1776, expressing their De sire that the Path through the Country of the Six Nations might be kept clear, and no Blood be spilt on it; decla ring that it was their Intention not to spill any. —

Another was a small black Belt of 7 Rows, by which the Rebels declared to the Six Nations that such great Grievances

w

were imposed on them by the King, that they could no longer bear them, and must endeavour to shake off his Yoke. –

A third was a Belt of 12 Rows, on which were represented in Black Wampum a Number of Figures with Hands unite This Belt was sent by the Rebels to desire the Indians to declare themselves, as, they said, it was their Intention to cut the Covenant Chain, just at the Point that migh include all their Friends, and leave out all their Enemies. –

A Fourth was a Belt of seven Rows chiefly black, with so White Wampum intermixt in different Parts. – This Belt was sent to the Indians by the Rebels, to represent to them the struggle between the King & them, for *this Island*, as it is termed by the Indians. The one End is torn & shattered, in Order to represent, that they had pulled with such Violence, as had wrested it out of the Kings Hands.

The three others were common white Belts, sent with different messages, of not so much Consequence.

In the Evening Aaron the Mohawk Chief called on Colo. Johnson, and talked to him on the Subject of the Meeting to be held the 27th Inst, and said he believed it would be proper to renew and sharpen the Axe and confirm former Engagemen &ca. —

Sunday 26th. This Morning Nawarikha alias, the Infant called on Colo. Johnson by Appointment, and received from him a Gorget, a Pair of Arm-Bands, a laced Hat & Feather, fine Shirt, Pair of scarlet Leggins with Ribbons &ca, & had a Testimonial given him, having before delivered up one he received from Major Butler in Febr. 1779. — He received these Presents with great Thankfulness, and told Colo. Johnson that he had often been encouraged & pressed by Major Butler to take on him some Office or Command, which he had always declined through a Diffidence of his own Abilities: but that the Encouragement & Favor he had now met with from Colo. Johnson, had determined him to shew himself for the future as a Chief Warrior, in which Station he was resolved to acquit himself to the best of his Power, in Behalf of the common Cause. — He then requested some Knives & Paint, for his Party, who were returned to Carachad and, he said, would probably wish to go out again as soon as he joined them. These Things were accordingly ordered him, after which he shook Hands with Colo. Johnson, and

took

Soon after Cakadorie came and brought with him the sus-
pected Indian, who says that he was at Oswego with Col.
Swayonga were he remained till the latter end of Decr. after he went to
Johnson, and went from thence to the Oneyda Village to see
Cakadoris, but hearing that he was come away with some
others, and finding himself suspected there he had come
off again immediately. — He is to be further examined. —
Cacadoris brought in the Fragments of a large Belt, sent
them by the Congreſs which they had cut to Pieces, out
of Resentment, at the Destruction of their Village; he
delivered up all the Wampum to Col. Johnson. — The
aforementioned Indian, on further Examination, confirmed
the Report, we heard during the Winter, that the Rebels ha
been defeated, with great Loſs, at the North River, late la
Fall, at the same Time mentioned, that the Rebels ha
been building Boats and making Preparations, as if to
take Poſseſsion of Oswego or to attack this Place in the
Spring.

Monday 27th. As the Weather was bad, the Indians did not
aſsemble till late in the Day, when the Meeting was
at their own Request put off till Tomorrow Morning, then

be

224. being not Room for them in the House, and the Weather not admitting of their Meeting without Doors. However they took this Opportunity to raise up Ontarighta, to be the Chief of the Onandagoes of Chiningo in the Room of his Brother Asserondungot deceased; and Col^o. Johnson accordingly put the Medal, that belonged to the latter, about his Neck, exhorting him to follow the Example of his Predecessor, and always to conduct himself agreeable to ~~the~~ his Advice & that of the Six Nations, as the only Means to make himself respected & esteemed. He was also exhorted by the different Chiefs, to the same Effect; and he gave Assurances, that he would ever act as a faithful Friend to the King, and in Conjunction with the Rest of the Confederacy. —

Tuesday 28th. The Indians came in this Morning, and after some previous Conversation with Seyangaraghta, Aaron and Kayashota, Col^o. Johnson immediately proceeded to ~~Accordingly~~ to lay before the Whole, the Business in Hand.

being not Room for them in the House, and the Weather not admitting of their Meeting without Doors. However they took this Opportunity to raise up Ondaraghta, to be the Chief of the Onandagoes of Chiningo, in the Room of his Brother Aſserondungot deceased; and Col^o. Johnson accordingly put the Medal, that belonged to the latter, about his Neck, exhorting him to follow the Example of his Predeceſsor, and always to conduct himself agreeable to ~~the~~ his Advice & that of the Six Nations, as the only Means to make himself respected & esteemed. He was also exhorted by the different Chiefs, to the same Effect; and he gave Aſsurances, that he would ever act as a faithful Friend to the King and in Conjunction with the Rest of the Confederacy.

Tuesday 28th. The Indians came in this Morning, and after some previous Conversation with Seyangaraghta, Aaron and Kayashota, Col^o. Johnson immediately proceeded to ~~[illegible]~~ lay before the Whole, the Busineſs in Hand.

225.

At a Most General Meeting with the Chiefs of the Six Nations Shawanese Delawares Nanticokes &c. held at Niagara on Tuesday the 28th March 1780.

Present.

Colo. Johnson Supt.
Major Butler } Depy Agents
Mr. Dease }
Major Lernoult Adjt Genl.
Capt. Johnston
Capt. Powel
Lieut. Bennet, 8th Regt.

Lieut. Hyllier
Lieut. Lottrige
Lieut. Dockstader
Lieut. Young
Lieut. Krysler
Richd. Cartwright as Secy
Lewis Clement } Interptrs.
Nichs. Stevens }

After the usual Enquiry whether they were all assembled & receiving Answers in the Affirmative from each body. — Aaron the Mohock Chief as Intr with 3 Strings performed the usual ceremony, after which Colo. Johnson addressed th as follows,

Brothers, Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nation and their Confederates here assembled!

I take you all by the Hand, and I rejoyce to see you all assembled to Day, in good Health, at this Fi Place which it was found necessary to kindle some Years since for your Conveniency. — Having been for these several Months past occupied in holding Conferences with you on various Subjects; in fitting out large Parties for War;

and in providing for and releiving the Wants of your People, which have been so much encreased by your late Loſses, and the extraordinary Number that has wintered near this Place: I postponed a general Meeting as well for these Reasons, as that I might have all your Chiefs aſsembled together according to the Custom of our Ancestors, and I request that you will be particularly attentive to what I have to say to you.

Brothers!

Although I have already acquainted most of the Head-Men, with what I had in Charge from the King and his Generals, yet I with Pleasure take this Opportunity of repeating it now to you all, and of aſsuring you from the King himself, of his Esteem for your Zeal & Attachment to his Government; and that he will pay strict Attention to the several Points which your Chiefs requested me to lay before his Majesty, namely the Redreſs of Abuses in Trade, and the preventing Frauds & Encroachments on Lands, as also the Maintenance of true Religion among such of your Confederacy as were Profeſsors of Christianity; on all these Points I have the strongest Aſsurances from the great King, & His Ministers of State to you, that so soon as Tranquillity is restored, you shall have strict Justice & Security & respecting Religion, I have a Parchment ~~here~~ from his Grace the Lord A.B. of Canterbury for your better Satisfaction: but as all these Points depend on the restoring Peace and Order to this Country, it is needless to say more on this Subject ~~at present~~, to Warriors, till that happy Event can take Place, which will depend much on the Vigor of those engaged in His Majesty's Service, and the fore the better you behave, and the more you exert yourselves, the sooner will your Wishes be accomplished, an the King expects a Continuance of your Efforts.

Gave a long black Belt ~~of 9 Rows~~ with the Letters G.I.
and his Seal at one End. —

Brothers!

I am also to assure you of the Affection of his Majesty Generals in America, of the high Esteem in which the hold your Conduct, and of the particular Attention whic General Haldimand pays to your Interests, as far as the State of the Service will admit, all which you yourselves have had occasion to know; and that, although the Difficulties which, notwithstanding all his Endeavours, atten ed the Transporting a timely supply ~~Supply~~ of Provisions, frustrated, in a

great Measure, the General's Intentions the last Year, yet he is determined to use every Effort for your Support; and has taken such effectual Measures thereupon, as will best shew his Approbation of your Conduct, his Sense of
~~the like~~ We also found that the [illegible] Year [illegible] on account in y^e [illegible] when he heard
your Losses, and his Desire to relieve you. - you was attacked & I need not to add, that your Friend Lieu^t. Col^o. Bolton has always manifested ~~entire~~ an Inclination to serve you as far as in his Power, ~~and~~ as have also all other Officers at the Posts.

Brothers! It now remains that I tell you, how much I am myself pleased with your good Conduct, and how much I esteem you for your Spirit & Loyalty, of which you gave me early Proofs. - I first gave you a Hatchet at Ontario in July 1775, to take Care, & keep the Communications open; the next Month I gave a sharper and a more ample one to you and your Confederates at Montreal. You deserved well, and some of your People fell with it in their Hands, and the General thanked you for your Conduct, in public Orders. At the Close of that Campaign, when I found it necessary to go to England to settle some important Points, and to come out the next Spring; previous to my Departure, I delivered a Belt to the Hurons to be forwarded to you, to strengthen your Resolution, and which Sayangaraghta informs me was sent t through your Nations. After having settled ~~some~~ there Points in England, and obtained the Kings full Commission & Authority, I was ordered by His Majesty to New York, wither he ha sent a large Army which was expected to have gone up to Albany, and to have met you; for which Account he sent out a considerable Present of Arms, Cloathing &ca, that has since bee burnt in a great Fire there. This great Army altered its cour ~~I suppose~~ perhaps, in Consequence of some secret Intelligence the General had received, and Genl. ~~B~~urgoynes Expedition failing to my great Mortification I found th Campaign lost. I ~~was~~ then earnestly solicited the King by Letter, to go round by Sea to your Country who the next Year 1779 approved of it, and ~~Genl. Howe being then removed from the Command~~, the ~~new~~ General gave Orders for a Ship for that Purpose, which ~~because it was greatly~~ from Circumstance could not however sail till September. ~~retarded by the Appearance of a French Fleet, which delayed me till Sept. 1779~~, when, after experiencing many Difficulties by Storms & contrary Winds, and being twice in the Gulph, ~~once in the Mouth of the River~~, I was forced to winter at Halifax, and was there again disappointed of a Vessel just as I expected to embark, ~~by reason of their Orders~~ on Account of for an Expedition ordered against New England, ~~which [illegible] induced [illegible]~~ I therefore purchased and fitted out a small Vessel to bring me to Quebec, where I arrived last Summer, ~~from~~ from thence I proceeded with all possible Expedition to this Place, where I was particularly informed of your good Behaviour. The rest of ~~they~~ Transactions you know; and I found it proper to give you this Account, in Conformity to your ancient Customs, that you might know their particulars from myself.

Then taking up a large Red Belt which had been given them by Major Butler, and another to be given with the Road he proceeded,

This Brothers is ~~my~~ the Road Belt, which Mr. Butler ~~given by~~ and yr. Chiefs inform me he deliv.d to you in my Name ~~Major Butler in my Absence~~, of which I much approve; by it you were to keep open the Communication with your true Fire-Places. I am well pleased with what Major Butler did thereupon, and with the Use you have made of it. and as on my Arrival, my Duties become very extensive, because Your People's Confederates ~~the Division of my Depart-ment to~~ to the South-West have a Claim to my Attention. and some of the Indians there have deserved well, it will be necessary to extend the Road and take in all of one Way of thinking, of one Heart, and of one Confederacy, therefore I do, not only in Approbation of the past, renew and strengthen the great Union Road Belt, but I do extend the same to all whose Hearts are right & true, recommending it to them to hold fast by the same, to watch it & give timely Notice of every Thing that might interrupt our Operations or our Meetings, from Canada to the Ohio, or to the End of your true Confederates, & and I do also hereby renew brighten & strengthen the Covenant. - This Belt, which I now give you to renew the former one, has in it one Square marked for the King, who by his great General ~~Officers~~, and by myself, your Col.o - and his sole Agent with you, retains fast hold of one End, and ~~are~~ is ready to give ~~all their Help~~ you every Assistance: the other End will be kept as it has always been, by the western Door, in which all your Confederates, the Shawanese, Delawares & others, whose Hearts and Minds are one Way, will joyn, and I have sent to them to remind them of their Obligations to you. - I recommend it therefore to you, Brother, to enable me to report the Continuance of your good Conduct to the great King, by your keeping fast hold of this great Belt, & I do renew and strengthen all the usual Conditions made thereby, that it may last as long as the Sun & Moon shall endure.

Gave a great Road Belt 14 Rows broad of black Wampum with seven white Squares, and one of them having G.I in black, & a white Road of 4 Rows broad thro' the Whole.

Brothers!

Having now according to our ancient Customs, to which I pay great Regard, renewed and enlarged my Road Belt, I shall next consider what is further neceſsary to be done, for the Protection of the Road, and support of the War in which we are engaged. - This Brothers is my last Axe-Belt which Major Butler delivered to you in 1777. I intirely approve of his Conduct thereon, and am highly pleased with yours. I know your gallant Actions, I have heard of them all, and I am sensible you have suffered much. In Token of my Approbation of all which, and as I am disposed to extend & confirm your Alliances & Friendships, that all the Brothers of one Way of Thinking throughout your Confederacy may be enabled to help, as it is their Duty to do, I do confirm what is past, and with this great Axe-Belt do renew, enlarge & sharpen the Axe you have heretofore used ~~same~~, so that it may reach far and cut deep; ~~as~~ ~~you say you for some Time used your own Axe~~, and that Nothing may venture to interrupt us, without feeling its Edge. and I hope it will be always ready to turn its Edge to wherever the Service shall require, and that it will be used with a strong Arm.

A great black Belt of 16 Rows, with an Axe at one End & the Letters G.R. at the other.

Brothers!

233.

Brothers!

Having so far ~~complied~~ fullfilled with the ancient Customs and Usages which were formerly practised between our Ancestors; it still remains, that in Order to render more effectual what was done, we should bind the Warriors to the due b servance of these Transactions. – I do therefore by this Belt take in all the Warriors of the Six Nations & their Confeder who are of one Heart, and one Mind; and I do bind them therewith about their Loins, that they may be strong, and always ready to hear my Call & that of their true Friends, t Chiefs, recommending it to them to pay due Regard to the same, by which Means we shall be strong, and enabled to support every Part of the Road.

Gave a large black Belt of 15 Rows, with a white Stripe and two black Figures, in white Squares with the Year 1760.

Col^o. Johnson then gave them the Belt & Strings to consult upon which he had received from the Delawares of Ohio, sho before and told them he had several Times before mentioned to them that the Genesee River was recommended by the General as the proper Place for a Settlement for the Indians [illegible] their coming to settle near Fort Erie, which concluded every Thing that Col^l. Johnson had to say to them at Present.

Kayashota.

234. Kayashota then stood up with the four Belts in his Hand ~~[illegible]~~, spoke as follows!

Brothers! Goragh Uraghquaderha!

We have heard with great Attention all that you have said on these Belts, which we find very agreeable, and we thank you for the same. We shall according to Custom take them into Consideration among ourselves, and give you our Answer of which you shall have timely Notice. - And after drinking a Glass round the Meeting broke up.

Wednesday 29th. This Afternoon the Indians assembled, in Order to give their Answer to what was said to them Yesterday; but first Sayangaraghta & Kayashota, had some Conversation with Colo. Johnson, wherein it ~~was~~ they mentioned to know the Purport of what they intended to say, ~~mentioned that Kayashota should go himself with the Belts given Yesterday to the Hurons & southern Shawanese with some additional Messages from the Six Nations that~~ ~~hereafter~~ ~~they might communicate them to the~~ other ~~Nations they are connected with, in Order to make them hearty in the common~~ Cause - After which they proceeded to the Business of the Meeting.

Present.

235.

Colo. Johnson Supt. — Majr Butler, Mr Dease Dy Agents.
Major Lernoult Adjt. Genl.
Capt. Potts, 8th Regt.
Capt. Caldwell of the Rangers & others as before.

Kiashota as Speaker on the Occasion, got up, and first repeated what had been said by the Delawares on the Belt of this which they gave ~~Colo. Johnson, professing~~ declaring their Wish to cross Lake Erie & settle somewhere on the north side, & by what Col. Johnson had said ~~settle near Lake Erie~~ [illegible] ~~Colo. Johnson had~~ in disapprobation of [illegible] as that it would be dismembering their country & getting [illegible] distance [illegible] enemy [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ to [illegible] to the Geneseo [illegible] or if they [illegible] settle at Kadaragoras, or other [illegible] places ~~[illegible]~~ ently supplied & supported. — He then declared the Sense of the Six Nations ~~that the Delawares should settle at Kadaragoras~~ were entirely of Colo. Johnson's Opinion ~~that the Delawares should~~ ~~that they would send a Message to them expressing~~ settle at Kadaragoras & that they would send them a Message ex~~Sentiments on that Head.~~ pressing their Sentiments on that Head.

Then taking up the Belt that had been given them in the Name of the King and that to unite & strengthen the Warriors, he addressed himself first to the Indians as follows.

Brothers!

You have heard & remember what was yesterday said to you upon these Belts, which we fully approve of & agree to ~~I shall at present lay aside~~, ~~while~~ I shall now say something upon the other two. — Then, taking up the Road-Belt, he proceeded.

We received a Road Belt from Major Butler at Irondequot in 1777, to open and clear a Road to wherever we wished to go. Colo. Johnson has thanked us for what we did in Consequence of that Belt & has renewed it by giving us this, which is to reach from Quebec through the seven Nations of Canada, & to ~~extend it to the Hurons~~ to our Allies and ~~their~~ Confederates to the Westward & Southward, ~~and to the Shawanese & the Nations connected with them, & the Southward~~. – Then addressing himself to Colo. Johnson he said,

Brother Goragh Uraghquaderha!

We thank you for giving us this Belt to extend to the Westward & the Southward, to take in all our Allies & the Nations that fight in the same Cause with us, and to encourage them and make them strong, to keep the Road & Communication between us open; and we will make Haste to send this Belt to the Hurons & Shawanese, that they may explain it to the Nations they are connected with. – Then taking up the Hatchet Belt he proceeded,

We likewise received a Hatchet from

Major Butler at the same Time & Place, at which he
gave us the Road Belt, and we most sincerely & heartil
thank you for sharpening & renewing it; and we assure yo
we mean to employ it well & make it cut deep. We wi
send this along with the Road Belt to the Nations o
the West & South, and exhort them to use it with a str
Arm against our common Enemies as we are deter-
mined to do. You have now heard what our Reso-
lutions are; and we are told that we shall be streng
ened by the General at Quebec, which we expect will re
ally be the Case next Spring. The same Thing has be
promised us for four Years past, but has not yet been per-
formed; but we expect that these Promises will no lon
ger come from the Lips only but from the Heart; and f
as we are determined, on our Part, to do our best; so like
wise we expect to be strengthened & supported by the
General; this, Brother, is ~~all we~~ what we have to say, and we
desire that you will acquaint the General with it, th
~~we~~ he may know what we expect. — Here Kiashota end
and Sayangaraghta got up and spoke as follows,

Brother,

230. Brother Gorah Uraghquaderha!

We have considered what you said to us Yesterday; and are resolved to send a Chief of each of our Nations to accompany Kiashota, who is already fixed upon, to carry these Belts through the Six Nat. ~~to Huro~~ns & Shawanese, and such Nations as are Friends to the King. to explain them to them & encourage them to join heartily with us, and act with Vigor against our Common Enemy. ~~And~~ at their Return we shall acquaint you with all their Transactions and the Success of our Messages and we mean to send them off as soon as possible.

Col.o Johnson replied.

Brothers!

I am glad to find you so spirited & determined, in which I hope you will always be unanimously, persevere and not listen to any idle Stories that evil minded People may spread amongst you. - I shall lay before the General and the King ~~& the King~~ every Thing that you desire, and I can assure you that every Thing will be done for you that is possible so long as you continue to merit it.

by

239. by your good Conduct, But I have often explained to your Chiefs the Difficulties that attend the fulfilling all your Expectations in a hidder.
~~[illegible]~~ was then ~~called~~ ordered for, and a Glass a piece given to the Indians, after which they went off to their Camp.

Thursday 30th. Nenquarickha Sayeagaraghta's Son Visited Col. Johnson & reced. from him a New Scarlet Coat & Gold Epaulets. Also gave him his Gorget & his Spouse Camens with their Names ingraved therein under Col. Johnsons Cypher, at their own request. —

Arrived Montour with his party of 12 Warriors who were brought to be presented to Col. Johnson, & represented their Wish to go to the neighbourhood of Reading in Pensilvania & try to bring off an Officer or some intelligent prisr. Col. Johnson approved of it & gave him a Gorget he wanted to fullfill a dream, and delivered them a belt to replace Tonongwatie (Son to Tahahawdie & nephew to Sayengaraghta who was killed at Ft. Stanwix in 1777. Which they thankfully received.

1. Proceedings of a General Meeting with the Chiefs of the Six-Nations, Shawanese, Delawares, Nantickes &ca. held at Niagara on Tuesday the 28th March 1780. —

Present.

Col^{l}. Johnson Sup^{t}.
Major Butler } Dep^{y} Agents
M^{r}. Dease — }
Major Lernoult Adj^{t} Gen^{l}.
Lieu^{t}. Bennet 8th. Reg^{t}.
Cap^{t}. Johnston
Cap^{t}. Powell

Lieu^{t}. Hyllier
Lieu^{t}. Lottrige
Lieu^{t}. Dochsteder
Lieu^{t}. Younge
Lieu^{t}. Krysler
Rich^{d}. Cartwright as Sec^{y}
Lewis Clement } Interp^{rs}.
Nich^{s}. Stevens }

The Indians having signified that they were all aſsembled, Aaron the Mohawk Chief performed the Ceremonies usual with them before they enter upon Buſineſs, with three Strings of Wampum; after which Col^{l}. Johnson addreſsed them as follows.

Brothers, Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates here aſsembled!

I take you all by the Hand, and rejoice to see you all aſsembled to Day in good Health, at this Fire-Place, which it was found neceſsary to kindle some Years ago for your Conveniency. Having been for these several Months past occupied in holding Conferences with you on various Subjects, in fitting out large Parties for War, and in providing for and relieving the Wants of your People, which have been so much increased by your late Loſses, and the extraordinary Number that has wintered near this Place, I gathered a general Meeting as well for these Reasons, as that I might have all your Chiefs aſsembled together, according to the Custom of our Ancestors, and I request that you will be particularly attentive to what I have to say to you

Brothers! Although I have already acquainted most of the Head Men with what I had in Charge from the King, and his Generals, yet I with Pleasure take this Opportunity of repeating it now to you all, and of aſsuring you from the King himself of his Esteem for your Zeal and Attachment to his Government, and that he will pay strict Attention to the several Points which your Chiefs requested me to lay before His Majesty, namely the Redreſs of Abuses in Trade, and the preventing Frauds and Encroachments on Lands, as also the Maintenance of true Religion among such of your Confederacy as were Profeſsors of Christianity: on all these Points I have the strongest Aſsurances from the great King and his Ministers of State to you, that so soon as Tranquillity is restored, you shall have strict Justice and Security: and respecting Religion, I have a Parchment from his Grace, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury for your better Satisfaction. But as all these Points depend on the restoring Peace and Order to this Country, it is needleſs to say more on this Subject to Warriors, till that happy Event can take Place, which will depend much on the Vigor of those engaged in His Majesty's Service, and therefore the better you behave, and the more you exert yourselves the sooner will your Wishes be accomplished; and the King expects a Continuance of your Efforts.

Gave a long black Belt with the Letters G. I.
and the Impreſsion of his Seal at one End.

Brothers!

I can also aſsure you of the Affection of His Majesty's Generals in America, of the high Esteem in which they hold your Conduct, and of the particular Attention which General Haldimand pays to your Interests, as far as the State of the Service will admit; all which you yourselves have had Occasion to know; and although the Difficulties which, notwithstanding all his Endeavours, attended the transporting a timely Supply of Provisions, frustrated, in a great Measure, the Generals Intentions the last Year, yet he is determined to use every Effort for your Support; and has taken such effectual Measures for that Purpose, as will best shew his Approbation of your Conduct, his Sense of your Loſses, and his Desire to relieve you. We

also

British Museum

3. hear that the southern General made a successful Movement in your Favor when he heard you were invaded. And I need not add that your Friend Lieut. Colonel Bolton has always manifested an Inclination to serve you as far as is in his Power, as have also all other Officers at the Posts.

Brothers!

It now remains for me to tell you how much I am myself pleased with your good Conduct, and how much I esteem you for your Spirit and Loyalty of which you gave me early Proofs. I first gave you a Hatchet at Ontario in July 1775, to take care and keep the Communications open; the next Month I gave a sharper and a more ample one to you and your Confederates at Montreal. You deserved well and some of your People fell with it in their Hands, and the general thanked you for your Conduct in public Orders. At the close of that Campaign when I found it necessary to go to England, to settle some important Points, and to come out the next Spring; previous to my Departure, I delivered a Belt to the Hurons to be forwarded to you, to strengthen your Resolution, and which Sayangaraghta informs me was sent up through your Nations. After having settled some Points in England, and obtained the Kings full Commission and Authority, I was ordered by His Majesty to New York, whither he had sent a large Army, which was expected to have gone up to Albany and to have met you; on which Account he sent out a considerable Present of Arms Clothing &ca, that has since been burnt in a great Fire there. This great Army altered its Course, perhaps in Consequence of some secret Intelligence the General had received, and, Genl. Burgoynes Expedition failing, Its my great Mortification found that Campaign lost. I then earnestly solicited the King by Letter, to go round by Sea to your Country, who the next Year 1778 approved of it, and the General gave Orders for a Ship for that Purpose, which from Circumstances could not however sail till September, when after experiencing many

Difficulties by Storms and contrary Winds, and being twice in the Gulph, I was forced to winter at Halifax: and was there again disappointed of a Vessel just as I expected to embark, on Account of an Expedition ordered against New England. I thereupon purchased and fitted out a small Vessel to bring me to Quebec, where I arrived last Summer, and from thence proceeded with all possible Expedition to this Place, where I was particularly informed of your good Behaviour. The Rest of my Transactions you know: and I found it proper to give you this Account, in Conformity to your Ancient Customs.

Then taking up a large Road Belt which had been given them by Major Butler, and another to be given in its Stead, he proceeded,

This Brothers! is the Road Belt which Major Butler and your Chiefs informed me he delivered to you in my Name, of which I much approve; by it you were to keep open the Communication with your true Brethren I am well pleased with what Major Butler did [illegible] Occasion, and with the Use you have made of it; and as on my Arrival my Duties become very extensive, because your People and Confederates to the South West have a Claim to my Attention, and some of the Indians there have deserved well, it will be necessary to extend the Road and take in all of one Way of thinking, of one Heart and of one Confederacy: therefore I do not only in Approbation of the past, renew and strengthen the great union Road-Belt, but I do extend the same to all whose Hearts are right and true, recommending it to them to hold fast by the same, to watch it and give timely Notice of every thing that might intercept our Operations, or their Meeting, from Canada to the Scioto, or to the End of your true Confederates. And I do also hereby renew, brighten and strengthen the Covenant Chain. This Belt which I now give you to renew the former one, has in it one Square marked for the King, who by his great

Genl.

General, and by myself, your Colonel, and his sole Agent with you, retains fast hold of one End and is ready to give you every Assistance; the other End will be kept as it has always been, by the western Door, in which all your Confederates, the Shawanese, Delawares and others, whose Hearts and Minds are one Way, will join, and I have sent to them to remind them of their Obligations to you. — I recommend it therefore to you Brothers, to enable me to report the Continuance of your good Conduct & Fidelity, by your keeping fast hold of this great Belt, and I do renew and strengthen all the usual Conditions made thereby, that it may last as long as the Sun and Moon shall endure.

Gave a great Road Belt of black Wampum 14 Rows broad, with 7 white Squares, one of them with the Letters G.I in black, and a white Road of 4 Rows broad through the Whole.

Brothers!

Having now according to our ancient Customs, to which I pay great Regard, renewed and enlarged my Road Belt, I shall next consider what is farther necessary to be done, for the Protection of the Road, and Support of the War in which we are engaged. This Brothers! is my last Axe-Belt which Major Butler delivered to you in 1777; I intirely approve of his Conduct therein, and am highly pleased with yours. I know your gallant Actions, I have heard of them all, and am sensible you have suffered much. In Token of my Approbation of all which, and as I am disposed to extend and confirm your Alliances and Friendships, that all the Brothers of one Way of Thinking, throughout your Confederacy, may be enabled to help as it is their Duty to do, I do confirm what is past, and with this great Axe Belt do renew, enlarge and sharpen the Axe you have heretofore used, so that it may reach far and cut deep; and that Nothing may venture to interrupt us without feeling its Edge, and I hope it will be always ready to turn its Edge to wherever the Service shall require, and that it will be used with a strong Arm.

Gave a great black Belt of 16 Rows, with an Axe at one End, and the Letters G.I at the other.

Brothers!

Having so far fulfilled the ancient Customs & Usages which were formerly practised between our Ancestors; it still remains, that in order to render more effectual what was done, we should bind the Warriors to the due Observance of these Transactions — I do therefore by this Belt, take in all the Warriors of the Six-Nations and their Confederates, who are of one Heart and of one Mind; and I do bind them therewith about their Loins, that they may be strong and always ready to hear my Call, and that of their true Friends the Chiefs, recommending it to them to pay due Regard to the same, by which Means we shall be strong, and enabled to support every Part of the Road.

Gave a large black Belt of 15 Rows, with a white stripe and two black Figures in white Squares, with the Year 1780.

Colo. Johnson then gave them the Belt and Strings to consult upon, which he had received from the Delawares of Ohio, about their coming to settle on the North Side of Lake Erie. He also told them, that he had several Times before mentioned to them, that the Genesea River was recommended by the General as the properest Place for a Settlement for the Indians in this Quarter who had lost their Villages, as they could there be the most conveniently supplied and assisted, and that he would now again recommend this to their serious Consideration, which concluded every Thing that Colo. Johnson had to say to them at present.

Kaiashota then stood up with the four Belts in his Hand, and spoke as follows;

Brother Goragh Uraghquaderha!

We have heard with great Attention all that you have said on these Belts, which we find very agreeable, and we thank you for the same, We shall according to Custom take them into Consideration among ourselves, and give you our Answer of which you shall have timely Notice.

The Meeting then broke up, & the Indians went off to their Camps.

Wednesday 29th.. In the Afternoon the Indians aſsembled in Order to give their Answer to what was said to them Yesterday; but first Sayangaraghta & Kayashota had some Conversation with Colo. Johnson wherein they mentioned to him the Purport of what they intended to say; after which they proceeded to the Busineſs of the Meeting.

Present.

Colonel Johnson Superintendant
Major Butler } Depy. Agents
Mr. Dease }
Major Lernoult Adjt. General.
Captn. Potts, 8th Regt.
Captn. Caldwell of the Rangers, and others as before.

Kayashota as Speaker on the Occasion, got up and first repeated what had been said by the Delawares of Ohio, on the Belt which they gave Colo. Johnson, declaring their Wish to croſs Lake Erie and settle somewhere on the North Side; and also what Colo. Johnson had said in Disapprobation of this step, as that it would be abandoning their Country, and separating from the Rest of the Confederacy, at the same Time recommending to them, to remove to the Genesea River, or if they thought that too far to fix themselves at Kadaragoras, at either of which Places they might be conveniently supplied and supported in Case of Neceſsity. — He then declared that the Six Nations were intirely of Colo. Johnson's Opinion, that the Delawares should settle at Kadaragoras, and that they would send them a Meſsage expreſsing their Sentiments on this Head.

Then taking up the Belt that had been given them in the Name of the King, and that to unite and strengthen the Warriors, he addreſsed himself first to the Indians as follows,

Brothers!

You have heard and remember what was Yesterday said to you upon these Belts, which we fully approve of and agree to. I shall now say something upon the other two. Then taking up the Road Belt he proceeded — We received a Road Belt from Major Butler in 1777, to open and clear a Road wherever we wished to go. Colº. Johnson has thanked us for what we did in Consequence of that Belt, and has renewed it by giving us this, which is to reach from Quebec through the Seven Nations of Canada, and to our Allies and Confederates to the Westward & Southward. – Then addreſsing himself to Colº. Johnson, he said,

Brother Goragh Uraghquaderha!

We thank you for giving us this Belt to extend to the Westward & Southward, to take in all our Allies and the Nations that fight in the same Cause with us, and to encourage them and make them strong, to keep the Road & Communication between us open, and we will make Haste to send this Belt to the Hurons and Shawanese, that they may explain it to the Nations they are connected with. – Then taking up the Hatchet Belt he proceeded,

We likewise received a Hatchet from Major Butler at the same Time and Place at which he gave us the Road Belt, and we most sincerely and heartily thank you for sharpening & renewing it; and we aſsure you we mean to employ it well and make it cut deep. We will send this along with the Road Belt to the Nations of the West & South, and exhort them to use it with a strong Arm against our common Enemy, as we are determined to do. – You have now heard what our Resolutions are, and we are told that we shall be strengthened by the General at Quebec, which we expect will really be the Case next Spring. The same thing has been promised us for four Years past, but has not yet been performed; but we expect that these Promises will no longer come from the Lips only but also from the Heart; and that as we are determined on our Parts, to do our best, so likewise we expect to be strengthened & supported by the General. This Brother is what we had to say, and we desire that you will acquaint the General with it, that he may

BRITISH MUSEUM

know what we expect. — Here Kaiashota ended, and Dayangaraghta got up and spoke as follows;

Brother Goragh Wraghquaderha!

We have considered what you said to us Yesterday, and are resolved to send a Chief of each of our Nations to accompany Kayashota, who is already fixed upon to carry these Belts through the Six Nations and Shawanese, and such Nations as are Friends to the King, to explain them to them, and encourage them to join heartily with us, and act with Vigor against our Common Enemy. At their Return we shall acquaint you with all their Transactions, and the Succeſs of our Meſsages, and we mean to send them off as soon as poſsible.

Coll. Johnson replied,

Brothers! I am glad to find you so spirited and determined, in which I hope you will always unanimously persevere, and not listen to any idle Stories that evil minded People may spread amongst you. I shall lay before the General and the King every Thing that you desire, and I can aſsure you that every Thing will be done for you that is poſsible, so long as you continue to merit it by your good Conduct; but I have often explained to your Chiefs, the Difficulties that attend the fulfilling all your Expectations, on a sudden.

Some Liquor was then ordered, and a Glaſs a piece given to the Indians, after which they went off to their Camps.

Friday 31st. The Indians met again and brought the Deputies they had appointed to carry the Belts to the Westward & Southward; when Coll. Johnson told them, he would also join with them in this Deputation; and gave them a Belt and Speech addreſsed to the following Effect.

To the Six Nations, Shawanese, Delawares and all Confederates living to the South-West.

Brothers!

I am at length once more come among my Children

and

10. and Friends the Indians, after having been absent from them much longer than I expected, through unavoidable Accidents & Delays. I was ordered to New York by the King, that I might go with the Army up Hudsons River; but this Plan was afterwards changed, and I did not obtain Leave till 1778 to come round by the Way of Canada, when I met with such bad Weather, that I was obliged to winter at Halifax, from whence I arrived at Quebec last Summer, and made all Expedition to reach this Place, along with a Body of Troops which your Friend Genl. Haldimand sent up to aſsist the Six Nations, whom I found a good Deal distreſsed at the Loſses they had sustained by the Rebels, who invaded their Country and destroyed some of their Villages; yet they were not cast down, but on the contrary eager for Revenge. A few Days after we went to Oswego in Hopes of intercepting the Rebels, but were disappointed by their very precipitate Retreat. But though disappointed in this the Six Nations could not rest without taking some Satisfaction for the Injuries done them, and during the Winter upwards of three hundred have gone against the Rebels in different Parties, (from whom I daily expect favourable Accounts, and many more are preparing to go. They have likewise rejected with Disdain all Applications from the Rebels, and are determined to hold fast by their Engagements wth. the King, and shew their Enemies they are not to be discouraged.

Brothers!

I laid the Huron Pipe before the great King who was pleased with the Aſsurances I received from Oghtasege when your People met me at Oswego five Years ago, and the King recommends it to you to continue to deserve his Favor. I have given a good Account of you to Genl. Haldimand, and I hope my Words will be made good, as he is a true Friend to all faithful Indians.

Brothers!

11. Brothers!

I have lately had a Meeting with the Chiefs and three thousand Six Nations, when I renewed and sharpened their Axe, and gave them a new Road Belt to extend through all the Nations, also a large Belt to bind all the Warriors which I hope they will regard as they ought; and the Six Nations now send a Deputation of some of their Chiefs to explain to you what paſsed on that Occasion. I cannot forbear joining my Hand to theirs, and I sincerely wish for the Sake both of your Honour and Interest, that their Words may make full Impreſsion on your Hearts, and induce you so to exert yourselves against the Rebels, the common Enemies both of you and the King, that I may send a favorable Representation of your Merit and Services to His Majesty, who has been always forward to take Notice of and reward his Friends with Liberality, as your Brothers the Six Nations, and even yourselves can testify.

Brothers! I sent a Meſsage to you last Winter requesting to see some of you at this Place; and lest that should have miscarried, I now take this Opportunity to renew my Request, that you would meet me here as soon as poſsible, that we may confer together Face to Face, on Matters of Importance to you.

Brothers!

I also request that you will pay no Attention to any Meſsages that may be sent to you from the Rebels, whose Deceit is well known, and the Effects of it have been severely felt by those few Indians that were at first led to hearken to them. I hope for your own Sakes that you will discountenance all mischievous Reports, and not suffer any bad Birds to come amongst you, to perplex and divide you by their Falshood & Artifice, but keep your Eyes on the great King & Your true Confederate – I now aſsure you of my great Esteem & Friendship, which I shall continue to shew for you and give good Proofs of while

I

12. I find the old Engagements observed, as I hope they will be always; and you shall find me acting in the same Manner as your late worthy Friend, my Predecessor, Sir Wm. Johnson, and with an open Heart and an open Hand to all the King's Friends. I now by this Belt confirm my Words which I hope you will lay up in your Hearts

A large black Belt of 13 Rows, with seven white Diamonds.—

Colo. Johnson also wrote to Major De Peyster, and Mr. McKee his Deputy at Detroit, requesting their Assistance on this occasion, and recommending to their Notice the Deputies of the [illegible] and as a further Inducement for the Indian [illegible] in this Business, he gave Kayashota a [illegible] promising him something more on his be[illegible] and the same also to Kathawasa [illegible] of the [illegible]

Read examined & compared

Richd. Cartwright as Secy

No. [illegible] Proceedings, and Trans: actions with Colo. Johnson & the Indians at Niagara March the 1780.—

o the honour.ble the Senate and
sembly of the State of New York in
egislature convened.

Report of a Collection of
Treaties &c. with the five Nations
remaining among the Papers of
Robert Livingston & Philip
Livingston Esq.rs deceased; formerly
Secretaries of Indian Affairs, in
the hands of Col. Robert Livingston
their Descendant and Heir at Law.

To the honourable
Assembly of the Sta
Legislature convene

The undersigned one of th
Controversies respecting the
Territorial Rights of the St
Commissioners for collecting
Support thereof, appointed by
leave to report ——

That a Treaty or Conference wit
1701, which is referred to in a deed
in 1726 is material to establish the
Northern Limits, of the State. Th
by which a district called Tironde
on Lake Ontario, and midway bet
Oswego, was conveyed in property to th
year 1720, is also material. Th
Records that Robert Livingston (the
successively held the Office of Secretar
this Government, under the Crown, fr
most of the Records of Indian Affairs
of the State by Guy Johnson the late Se
thought adviseable after a Search to ne
Office and Clerk's Office for the County

To the honourable The Senate a
Assembly of the State of New York
Legislature convened

The undersigned one of the Managers of th
Controversies respecting the Boundaries or
Territorial Rights of the State and one of
Commissioners for collecting the Evidence in
Support thereof, appointed by Act of Legislature
leave to report

That a Treaty or Conference with the Six Nation
1701, which is referred to in a Deed of Cession of their C
in 1726 is material to establish the Western, as well a
Northern Limits, of the State. That another Inst
by which a district called Tirondequot, of considerabl
on Lake Ontario, and midway between Niagara an
Oswego, was conveyed in property to this Government, abo
year 1720, is also material. That discovering fr
Records that Robert Livingston (the first) and his Son
successively held the Office of Secretary of Indian Affai
this Government, under the Crown, from an early Period
most of the Records of Indian Affairs having been carrie
of the State by Guy Johnson the late Superintendant; it w
thought adviseable after a Search to no purpose in the Secre
Office and Clerk's Office for the County of Albany, to exam

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The Papers of the before named former Secretaries remaining in the Custody of Col. Robert Livingston their Descendant and Heir at Law. That altho' neither of the two Instruments above particularized could be found: yet several Treaties Conferences and Cessions of the five nations in favour of New York; and confirmatory of their territorial Rights, are discovered among the papers of the said two former Secretaries. That the Substance of part of the said Treaties hath been carefully collected and digested: and is herewith presented for the Consideration of the honorable Legislature. That it is conceived that those ancient Records are material to maintain the territorial Rights of the State: but being in the Custody of a private Person, they do not at present admit of Authentication. That the Application and use of this Species of Evidence will be manifest from a Report to the honorable Legislature, of the General State of the Evidence. —

All which is humbly submitted
this 30th. day of March 1780 —

Jas. Duane

8: July 1666 Mohawks expecting an Invasion from Canada apply to the Commissioners at Albany for assistance, powder and Lead Granted to them &c.

31st august 1666

A Peace made at Albany thro' the mediation of the Commissaries between the Mohawks &c and the Moh

30 June
21 July
22 august

1677 A Treaty at Albany between Col. Coursey agent for Lord Baltimore & in behalf of Maryland & Virginia and the Mohawks & other Indians Westward: In which Col. Coursey says being Informed that the Maquaes Senecas &c are of this Government and constant freinds to the English under our Great King &c

The Oneydes in their answer call the Christians of this Government their Fathers and declare that they are willing & ready to obey the Commands of the King &c. The Mohawks thank the Governour of New york that he had pleased to Grant Colˡ Coursey the priviledge to speak with them at that place seeing that the governour general & they were one and one heart and head for the Covenant between them was inviolable so strong that if ever the very Thunder should strike upon the Chain it would not break it in sunder &c

The Senecas and Cayyonges say that they have made a Covenant with this which hath been faith- 1682
fully kept by the Governours General for which they give May 15
him hearty thanks whom they have taken to be their greatest Lord that they have never had wars with this Government but with Maryland and Virginia June 13
and that now Colˡ Coursey is Come to speak with them 1682
in the governours generals Province: That they have Come to speak of good things and should receive a good answer &c

[illegible]6th &
26th Sept 1679 A Treaty at Albany between Colˡ William — August
Kendal agent for Virginia and the 5 Nations —

The Mohawks say they are glad to see him here whom they have never seen before. That they are upon his desire "and our governours 30 July
generals' Consent come here in their appointed 1684

House, to hear you Speak and give you an answer; again we have understood that the mischief our Neighbours have done in your Country is upon the Interposition and persuasion of our Governour professed by &c.

The Oneidas declare that they had been Obedient to the government. when he sent to demand the Christian Prisoners (taken in Virginia) and did declare the Same without any Condition &c

1682 May 15 Lord Baltimore (Gov.r & Prop.r of Maryland) Commission to Col.l Henry Coursey and Col.l Philemon Lloyd to Treat with 5 Nations at Fort Albany in the

June 13 1682 } Dominion of his Royal Highness the Duke of York and to Request the favour and assistance of that

* Government &c. The Commander in Chief of New York's Consent in which he calls them our Indians &c

August 1 Proposals by the said Commiss.rs to Commander in Chief of New York for his assistance and direction in which are these Expressions to declare to the several Northern Nations of Indians in League and amity with his Majesty and his Royal Highness the dukes governm.t

30 July 1684 Lord Howard Baron of Effingham governour

of Virginia in a Treaty with the 5 Nations at
Albany expresses himself thus "Col. Thomas
"Dongan your Governor General by the mediation
"of your Governor I am come to Albany to know –
"the reason of your breaking the Covenant Chain
"not only with us and our Neighbour Indians:
"but with Maryland · who are Great King Charles
"Subjects: for our Indians have given Great King
"this Land and pay him tribute · Therefore I
"the Governor of Virginia will forebear them
"as your Governor under the Great Duke of York
"and Albany when the Chain of
"Friendship is made between us all" – by
"the desire of your noble governor General I am
"willing to make a new Chain with you for
"Virginia Maryland and our Indians – again
"thro· the Permission of your Governor who is at
"a vast deal of trouble and Charge for your welfare
"&c I have forgiven you &c

1684
2d August "Onondagaes and Cayouges answer · we have
"put Lands and ourselves under the protection of the
"Great Duke the Brother of your Great Sachem"
"again we do put the Susquehanna River
above

"above the waughts or falls and all the rest of our
" Land under the Great Duke of Yorke and to no body
" Else our Brethren his people being as fathers
" to our wives and Children and do give us bread
" when we have need of it, and we will neither
" Joyn Ourselves nor our Lands to any other Governmt
" than to this. and this proposition we desire that
" Corlaer the Governor may send over to the Great Sachem
" Charles that dwells over the great Lakes with this
" belt of wampum and another belt
" for the Duke of Yorke his Brother &c: we there-
"-fore desire that you (Lord Howard) would bear
" Witness of what we now do and that we Confirm
" what we have already done and let your friend
" the great Sachem that lives over the Great water
" know hereof. That we being a free people
" uniting ourselves to the English, it may be in
" our power, to give our Land to what Nation we
" please

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(6)

1688 July 22nd

1688 Augst 3rd

1684/5 3 Febʸ The Mohawks Entreat the Protection of the Government and that they will take Care of them in the most important Terms

1685 June 29 A Meſsage from the Sachems of the Senecas given Information that the Governor of Canada Intended to destroy them and Importuning the Governor of New York to take Care that no Mischief befall them. in which are these rema=
=rable expreſsions "The Governor of Canada's design
"is kept very secret

but neverthe leſs it is
"as far as our Country: Now Corlaer it is your Gover.
"-ment and we are your Subjects and desire that
"you would be pleased to order that our young soldiers
"do not go out a fighting but stay at home to defend
"their Country. —

1685 July 1st Canada Indians Settled by this Government at "Schauchkook with the Schauchkook Indians.

1685 July 22nd A Messeage from the Mohawks acquainting the
Commiss at Albany of the Invasion of the Seneca Country
by the French (as they say) "according to their duty

To the Commiss.rs at Albany

1685 aug.st 3rd The Senecas in a Speech express themselves thus -
:: Brother Corlaer this is the usual House were we -
" always our Propositions. There yonder! meaning
" New york: is the House of Corlaer also. but this is
" House of propositions which must be kept Clean and
" neat that no foulness grow in it, our heart and
" mind is as our mouth speaks. and we know
" Certainly that his heart and mouth is one
" for we are his people and he hath done good to
" our Nation and our Country &c
" Brother I said Just now that this Covenant House
" Should be kept Clean and neat Corlaer's Fyre is our fire
" whereby we warm ourselves in peace,
" Brother just now I spoke of the fire that is so
" Acceptable a fire. I did not Speak alone but
" of our whole Country from our Castle hither which
" our usual Custom in speaking about the Covenant
" Brother do not think that we have thought in our
" hearts that we Shall turn from Corlaer with the
" with the Governor of Canada &c

32½

4.8

1685/4
Sep^r 15

15 Sep^r
1685

A Treaty by Col^o William Byrd agent for Virginia with the 5 Nations throughout which Col^o Byrd Treats and Considers those Nations as Subjects of New York: and the Governor of New York as their Governor &c.

Sep^r.

15 Septr
1685

Governor Dongans propositions to the five Nation of Indians Reprimanding them for making peace with Canada without Consulting him: The French says "we dare not meddle with the King of Englands "Subjects and as such we esteem the Brethren for "he who was Proprietor of this place formerly his "Royal Highness is at Present the King and able "to protect them: upbraids them with their hostilities "against Virginia and insists on their keeping the "peace lately made with them –

The 5 Nations in their answer Lament that they made peace with Canada without the Gover:nors Consent promise never to Do it in future – Consent to all his Propositions &c &c

Proposals made to the Mohawks, Oneydes, Onondages, Cayouges and Senekaes by His Excellency Col. Thomas Dongan Governor Gen. of His Majesty in the Court House of Albany the 20/21 May 1686

Brethren

I had a great desire to see you, and am therefore Come this Voyage to meet you, that we might Continue the Freindship which subsists between us, and Redress the Inconveniences which may have happened to our Brothers which if they were still to Subsist might our freindship

I have Such a freindship for the Brothers that I Suffer no Opportunity to escape without acknowledging the same, for I am acquainted with all parts of the world and if the Brothers will be advised by me they will in the Issue find that I will be their best freind

I am Sorrey that the Brothers do not see that their Numbers lessen, and that we in the Conclusion, must be the People who maintain their wives and Children and who both now as well as then must Defend them against every Nation who Shall undertake to Defend them,

as

me

as you have found by Experiance in the late Trouble Which the Senecas have had with french. when the armes of the Great Sachem of England. who is at Present the King of England, were placed upon Your Castles. The french do not proceed any further to Injure you so far and upon every Complaint to the gr King of England that the Governor of Canada Seeking to molest you, he was Immediately removed from his Office -

I hear that there are many English, Dutch an french who go out on hunting and traffic with the distant Indians nations. without my Passport and Seal. and I Refused to grant them as it would have been to the prejudice of the Brothers, for if thee Should once find out the way to hunt an trade as the Brothers do, it would prove a great Injury to you for they would cary their merchadize to the distant Nations of Indians, and thus You would want Such goods as are Necessary for your Subsistance. I hear that Some of the fren marry with your Squaws. if they do this. my Request is, that you take Care that they do not g to Canada. but that they dwell with you in the Castles or Near at Hand ———

And I Charge you Strictly that you do not make either peace or war with any Christian people without my approbation. and that you do not permit the French or any other Christians to dwell at Onyageras or to make any fortifications or buildings there, nor in any Other place which might prove a hindrance to the Brothers in hunting of Bever — and that the Brothers do not deal or Traffic or Engage in any Covenant Chain with any Christians either French or English Respecting Commerce and trade without my Consent and approbation. but you Shall Continue to bring your merchandize to this place according to your Old Custom were you are assured of Obtaining Bread for your wives and Children whenever they are in want,

And you are not to permit that any Person Shall Trade or hunt with you unless he can Shew you three Small Seals with Red wax an Example of which Shall now be delivered.

That you open a free Passage through your Country not only for our Indians who Return from hunting but for all those distant Nations who may design, or be induced to Come and trade with us, for our Indians wanting this free Passage, home thro Canada and drink and game their Bever away there.

there by which their wives and Children suffer great and we loose our debts —

I have one more Proposal to make to the Brothers that is that they treat all the french ~~Traders~~ Priests with Civility, and not suffer their young fellows when they are in Liquor, to give them any disturbance.

Proposals made by Rhode Sachem of the Mohawks to the Governor Genl. in the Name of the Mohawks, Oneydes, Onnondagas, Cayouga and Senecas in Albany 21. May 1686 —

1 We the five Nations are Come according to the Govrs. Orders but before we proceed to our Propositions we acquaint you that the Senecas have taken 98 of the Dionondades Prisoners & a father 5 are set at liberty 8: father I olied is gone with to Canada & 3 are sent back to give Information of those who survive.

Presented 2 Bever skins

2 They say, that they have heard that peace prevails throughout Europe, as well with our King as with the other Christian Kings which affords them great Satisfaction. Prest 2 Bever skins.

That

3^rd That the Covenant Chain between the Gov^r and them is very antient and has been firmly and Uninterruptedly preserved. and since my Lord Howard the Gov^r of Virginia has been Included in that Covenant so Let his hand & arm be bound. but if the [illegible] ever try to breake the Chain, Still let the [illegible] our Governor keep his hold ——— present 2 Bev^r

After the Governor had made his Propositions they answered in the afternoon by their Speaker as follows.

1 Brother Corlair

We are Come to this place with Chearfullness according to your Order we heard your speach which has afforded us great Joy we are bound to thank your Excellency for your [illegible] gifts but Especially for your Public Information that Provisions and ammunition are transported to Cadarachqui now we see there is a man who takes Care of us and keeps a watchfull Eye for our prosperity it is now Impossible for us to Contain our Joy we Cannot help Exclaiming in Transport that our Eyes have seen and our Ears have heard a person who is Engaged in promoting the welfare of the whole Country and of us in particular added to which, they say. that now they Clearly perceive what the inclination of the Gov^{r} of Canada is, and his mind is disposed, while on the Contrary they see the disposition of his Excell^{cy} which is not surprizeing when we Consider that we are Corlaers Indians and that we live in his land. we are one head one body and one heart, and we take all that has been now spoken to us, not as flattery but as truth.–

2 We have understood that if the french should erect any Fortifications on this side of the Lake, – that we should try to hinder them. this we undertake to perform and shall Certainly destroy whatever fortresses they shall build with respect to what his Excellency Commands us that we should not hasten to take up the hatchet against the french, we will Oby and shall not molest the french if they do not attack us but if they should fall upon us then we expect his Excell^{cy} will assist us for if we suffer then his Excell^{cy} will suffer also for if the body suffers then the head is not free. for if our members suffer the whole body is in pain and in other respects Corlaer is Obliged to assist us, for the Gov^{r} of Canada speaks with great Contempt of his Excell^{cy} as if his assistance would be of no advantage to us.

But we believe if that was put to the Tryal, they would find it Otherwise —

Prest.. 5 Bev

3 We have also understood that all Contracts and agreements which are to be entered into between us and Christians must be made here in this place, we accept of this proposition and not only we ourselves, but our Young Indians are resolved never to listen to any Proposals from any Christians, but only such as shall be made in this House with respect to what His Excelly Requests, that he shall have due Information given him of all that happens with us we will also perform this and upon every Occurrence or new Circumstance will send a message to His Excelly to Inform of every Transaction even to the most minute Circumstance

Present 2 Bev:

We are Admonished to be sharp sighted, we shall not sleep, but be as nimble as foxes. and as soon as we discover any harm we shall with all possible speed dispatch a Messenger from the Senekas Country to the Cayouga's and from there to Onondaga and from thence to the Oneydas and so to the Mohawks district, where there is a house and from there to this place, we are very swift in performing a message, altho' we have no Horses for from the long Communications we learn the better,

Proposition made by Ohseta an
Oneyda for them and the Cayouges.

We have understood the propositions made by his Excell^y to us altho it was principally addressed to the Seneca's as they are one of the most distant Nations — and then Repeating the whole proposition made by his Excell. They Engaged to fulfill the Whole.

Pres. 2 Bel.

The Seneca's have Said that they would be very attentive in watching against every Mischief that threatens that we have also Numbers young fellows among us, who will not Sleep, but by night as well as day 16 will apply their Vigilance to make discoveries and fe Immediately to Communicate them and we beg that his Excellency will Persevere in doing as he has hitherto done, and Send us all the good News, like a Candle which diffuses its Light all around

Present 6. Bel. and 1 Belt Wampum

Prop:s made by Rode for the Mohawks

We have been very attentive and have Understood the propositions made by his Excell:y and shall also with great Obedience fulfill his Orders and Injunctions and our people will not be wanting to be also as quicke as forw to discover and give information, with all the speed ~ the Cause shall require ~

Pres:t 9 bev: and 2 belts of Wampum

The Seneca's and Onondaga's have given his Excell:cy ~ One String of Wampum as a Candle to give Light ~ and inform them all that happens: we give one String to assure His Excell:cy that we have a Horse upon our Chain who will in the most speedy manner Carry a message to His Excellency ~

1686/7 febru: 18th A Treaty between Mohawks & Magestrates of albany

The Mohawks inform them that the governor of Canada and Sacktackseye Sachem of the Dionondades had Invited them to a meeting at Cataracqui, That they the mohawks and the Seneca's had refused but the Onondagoes Oneydas and Cayouges had promised to attend and that they had Come to make their Resolution Known to their Brother

The

The Magestrates Answer

"Concerning what you say that the french have
"requested you as well as the other four nations to meet
"them at Cataracqui you know that the Governor-
"General has admonished you that you must take no
"notice of nor listen to the Governour of Canada when he
"he sends for you as you are his subjects and Convey
"your Letters to the Great King of England. You &
"the Senecas have done well that you have Obeyed
"Corlaers Orders while on the other hand the three Other
"Nations will answer in Case they listen to him
"without Corlaers leave: wherefore you will do well
"to admonish them of their duty, and put them in
"Remembrance of it that they do it not, In the mean
"time we will let the Governor know this your
"proposition"

1687 April 25 Governor Dongan sends a Message to the Mohawks and Senecas approving what they had proposed at Albany recommending them to be in peace but they must go to war with the Indians sends them ammunition Complains that the Oneydes Onondages and Cayouges going to Cataracqui to the Governor of Canada is Contrary to their promise — desires the mohawks and Seneca's to advise them not to go

Complains that Peltry is carried from the Schuylkill and
Susquahanna to Philadelphia as being Contrary to
agreement Reproaches the Mohawks for going into
Virginia as Contrary to agreement and of Dangerous
Consequences.

1687
May 23d. The Mohawks answer that on the Subject of the
Governor of Canada's proposition to meet him at Cataracqui
they had Sent an Express to all the Castles westward to
tell them not to go by any means to Cataracqui but on the
Contrary if they have any thing to say or to Consult that
they should Come to Corlear's house in albany that they
had no people living at Schuylkill or the Susquehanna
nor would they admit it for it was Conveyed to Corlear "
" they have helped to win it and if any
"will sell the Land it will be Void and of no Effect as it
"already Conveyed to this government. and if we find
"any french or others going up those Rivers to trade
"without Corlear's pass we shall bring them tied to
"Albany and deliver them to the Magistrates.
The Oneydes Confess that they had intended to go to
Cataracqui to speak to the Indians of Ottawa of peace "But
"would hearken to Corlear's Council and will hearken to the
Mohawks our Brethren and do what they shall think fit
They

May 23d They make the same Declaration as the Mohawks Respecting the Land at Susquehannah that it had been Conveyed to Corlear for the benefit of this government.

Do The Onondagoes answer that they must refer their Determination with respecting their going to Cataraqui till a general meeting of the 5 Nations which must be about the beginning of June: and Confirm what is before said of Respecting Susquehannah —

Do The Cayougues to the same purpose: and further that the Susquehanna is annexed to this government under the great King of England whose Subjects they are we must Acknowledge say they "that Corlear Shews him-
"self like a Brother in every Respect Especially since
"he gives us powder and lead to fight our Enemies now
"we Look upon it as if he fought with us himself —

1687
June 26 Proposition to the Western Indians sent to them from His Excellency the Governor General by Arn: Cornelise (Express) — 1 Corlaer, Is informed that the french and Indians are assembled at Cataraqui to war — against the Senekes and other nations — they must not be afraid but on their guard: and the Kings
or their and by no means go to the
Governor of Canada but let them know they are the King of England Subjects who will protect them

2 advises

687 th
ne 26

2 Advises them how to Conduct themselves in Case of an Attack, says he shall be in a Condition to assist them which he promises to do as soon as possible. That they send their Wives Children and old people to Albany where he promises to provide for them. That if the French should destroy their Corn they must not for he will assist them. That he does not Choose they should fight unless by great advantage &c That the governor will give them all the assistance he can in case they shoud be attacked on this side the Lakes and that with all possible speed &c &c –.

Coehorn – with this four of the Kings in Case any of the Castles should be without them.

1687
June 18th

Propositions from Mohawks and Oneydes

Expect an attack from the French, Come for the Governors advice and to receive powder and ball. That the governor of Canada used to Call them Children they find it very different: and therefore beg that the Tree of friendship and peace planted here be strong and flourish &c and acquaint the governor to remain faithfull and not be Changed towards them by any Correspondence with the Governor of Canada – but that he still Continues to give ammunition to defend themselves in the war –

Answer Commissaries of Albany Express that surprise at the

1687 June 17th at the fear they have of Canada recommend to them to be watchfull. That Corlear has always had the Love of a father over them and will Continue the same as long they behave well and Obey His [illegible] Commands which are always for their good. Expresses their satisfaction that Oneydas and Mohawks are united in Sentiments. That they must Continue to be one with them in obeying Corlear &c. That he gives all powder and Lead and since they want guns Corlear makes them a present of [illegible] from whom they may see that he is a good Father.

That the Correspondence of the Governor with The Governor of Canada was always for their good and if it had not been for that Correspondence, the Governor of Canada would Long since made war upon them therefore (said he) be of good Courage you shall want for Nothing, upon Condition However that you remain Obedient to Corlear.

1687 June 27th Propositions by the Cayouges Sachems to the Magistrates of Albany. They express great fears and apprehensions and are Come to Corlear for Council. They are ashamed to Come being informed that the Oneydas have Charged them with the mischief lately Committed in Virginia but they are innocent and the Oneydas themselves have done it. we are (say they) threatned by the the Governor of Canada; and since that the Land we Live in is Corlear's Land; and we and all therein are the King of

1687
June 27

of Englands Subjects therefore we Recommend the ~
Whole   to Corlear of whose Care and good management
we do not in the Least doubt desire the Governor as he
exchanges Letters with the the Governor of Canada to Se
into the business that they may not be deceived
if the war should go on which pray they; we do not -
" doubt we desire that our wives and Children who will
"   to make their escape this way defended here,
" recommending them to Corlears protection that as soon
" as the Governor of Canada   forthwith
" come here and acquaint Corlear therewith and pray
" assistance Their Hunting is useless and they desire
" they may have powder for Nothing" ~
Answer of the Commissaries Advising them to ~
Obey Corlear's commands since he aims at nothing ~
more than the welfare of them who put themselves under
his Protection as the Brethren have long since done
and now again repeated that they are the subjects of
of the great King of England. therefore we acquaint
you of the great Care Corlear takes of you sparing no
trouble or Charge to send   again to all the Nations
to let them know not to be any wise afraid but to stand
always upon their guard and that they put up the
armes in their Castles ——   that they are glad to hear
that none of their people are gone to Catarocqui altho
(say they)

Jl A 1340
1684 362
5 June 27

Say they. we were informed by the Seneca Sachems
" that they are gone which we wrote Corlaer and probably
" is disturbed him to hear of so unexpected disturbance
again if the governor of Canada should send for you Corlaer
Commands you that you let them know you are the
King of England Subjects who will protect you —
That they are to send their wives and children to
Albany where Corlaer will provide for them and if their
Corn should be cut down will supply them with Corn
that in Case of an attack Corlaer will give them all the
assistance he can

1687
June 28 Propositions by the people of the
Onondaga to the Magistrates of Albany —

after thanking the governor for his good
1 Instructions and present of ammunition they say,
" When Corlaer first Come here with a ship we made
" a Covenant with him and our Land delivered up
" unto him, and we are now Come to Confirm the
" Same. all the nations are now united to hold fast
" the Covenant, and they desire that Corlaer may also
" hold his hand fast if war should break out and they
" be Necessitated to fly they desire that Corlaer would take
" wives and Children into his Protection and desire that
" Smith may be sent to Live among them —

Answer

1687

June 28 Answer. They are promised the protection of Wives and Children and support: and all the assistance in the governours power —

July ^{4}8 Governor of New york Message to the Mohawks Orders to them the Oneydes Onondagues and Cayugas to defend the Senecas Invaded by the french raises the river Indians and repairs himself to Schentady for the same purpose. Desires the 5 nations to send their Old men Woman and Children to albany to be taken Care of.

July 4 Governor of New yorke renews his Order to the five nations to place the Kings armes on their Castles: to Obey his Instructions and promises to supply them with provisions and assist them against their Enemies —

July 10 His Speach to the Mohawks in which he Tells them that the attack of the French on the 5 nations is an attack on this Government and renews his promise of Succour &c

July 14 Propositions of the Governor to the 5 nations on the same Subject and they had at his Correspondence with the governor of Canada — the Letter of the 16th of June 1687 which he wrote to the Governor of Canada Calling him to an account for — Invading his Government &c

The

1 1687 344

2 August 6 The Governors Propositions to the five Nations. — Inform them of the steps he had taken for their assistance. Complains of their pretending to make peace or war with Canada without his consent. Commands them to listen to no treaty but by his advice. them to continue the war — proposes to build a fort on the Lake for their Security

Sept^br 3 Oneydas by Command of the Governor deliver up the Prisoners whom they had taken in Virginia; are severely reprimanded and threatened for the Infraction of their Treaty with that Government.

Sept^r 9 Order of Governor and Council for Removing protecting and feeding the Old men women and Children of the five Nations in the Interior parts of the Government.

16 Propositions made by Lord Howard Governor of Virginia to the 5 Nations. I Come (says he) "to New York on purpose to his Excellency your Governor to make Inquiry which of the Nations doth it. and those of that Nation which are guilty to deliver to me — In answer they thank his Lordship that he is so good as to pass by their Injury and they thank Corlear their Governor for getting my Lord to do it

14 Ju

NB

1688
July 2nd N 3 Among the papers are three papers appearing to be draft of Depositions of Joan Labate, Petrus Vinne, Barent Peelen and Simon Groot. at the foot of of Each of which is a memorandum in the hand Writing of the Secretary of Indian affairs that those depositions were taken before him at albany 2nd July 1688 but he had not signed the memorandum from which several important Facts are viz.

That in 1637 the Dutch west India Company Enjoyd the Sole Indian Trade that the 5 nations always Treated with the west India Company and were in amity with them, under their protection and brought them yearly Presents Then in 1640 when Wil: Keifs was Governor and before the Dutch had frequently gone to Niagara and that in this year they set up the Companys armes and Marks on three great Black oaks trees on both sides Niagara River the french were at this time at war with all the five Nations. There was another war between in 1666 in the Summer of

Which year the french burned the Mohawks Castle and destroyed their Indian Corn not long after the french Made a peace with the Mohawks and then and never before Jesuits were admitted into the Indian Castles, but not till Governor Nicholls the first English Governor gave them Leave during their Last war Nichols Raised men to assist the Mohawks and Sent up as far as the Senecas Country and Niagara and placed the King of Englands Coat of armes in both those places — That Governor Nichols in the spring of 1668 Sent Envoys to take Possession of the Senecas Country Niagara and the rest of those Nations as they were Delivered to the English by the dutch Governor Petrus Stuyvesant —

Detroit the 4th April 1780

Sir

You are to set off immediately for the Shawanese Towns, where as soon as the Indians can be aſsembled agreeable to their Promise in Council, You must conduct them to the place of rendezvous fixed upon by Capt. Bird and Yourself, from whence the whole will march to act in Conjunction for the good of his Majesty's Service.

You may aſsure the Indians from me that Captain Bird will do his utmost to destroy some of the Forts they so much complain of, provided they act like Men with Spirit. Otherwise he has my orders to return to this post Immediately, being well aware that the few men with him are not sufficient to do it alone.

You must also acquaint the Indians, that The Provisions sent, is for the troops only, [illegible] To have sent more would be the means of men with him are not sufficient to do it alone.

You must also acquaint the Indians, that the Provisions sent, is for the troops only, To have sent more would be the means of retarding the enterprize: The Indians must therefore not only maintain themselves, but they must also contribute to the Support of the Troops, who are by their own request sent to their Assistance.

Powder, Ball, flints, and paint — I have sent in plenty, being the articles absolutely Necessary for Warriors, If they want Goods, they must come here and fetch them when the Affair is over.

You will do well to purchase some Able packhorses, and to encourage the Indians to send a number sufficient, to assist in transporting the

To Capt: Alexr McKee.

Canson

Cannon over the Carrying place.

Every person Employed in the Indian Department upon this enterprize, are hereby ordered to Obey Such orders as they shall occasionally receive from you, & undertaking nothing of themselves or by any other orders unless they come from Capt. Bird.

As there is no time for Councelling, I have no Other Speech to make to my friends and Children, the Indians, than to assure them of my friendship, and to desire that they will loose no time in shewing the way to some of the Forts, in order to give my Cannon the opportunity of levelling the Pickets.

Give me leave to add my best wishes for

in shewing the way to some of the Forts, in order to give my Cannon the opportunity of levelling the Pickets.

Give me leave to add my best wishes for your Health and Success.

I am Sir

Your most Hum. & Obed.
Serv.

At. S. De Peyster

Major to the King's
Regt.
Commanding
Detroit

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES
CANADA

Tuesday 4th. This Morning the Tuskaroras desired to see Colo. Johnson who accordingly met them in the Council Room,

Present.

Colo. Johnson Supt.
Major Butler }
Mr. Dease } Depy. Agents
Capt. Johnston

Lieut. Lottrige
Richd. Cartwright as Secy.
Nichs. Stevens Interpr.
Aaron the Mohawk Chief
and Rarachtta. —

and John their Chief addressed himself to Colo. Johnson as follows, Brother!

As it is now drawing near the Time of Planting Corn &c we have been looking about us for a convenient and proper Place to make a Settlement at, and think at the Head of Lake Ontario it will be very convenient as there is Fishing & Hunting there in Abundance; but we do not wish to do any Thing contrary to your Opinion & that of the Six Nations, which we would be glad to ~~hear~~ know soon, as we wish to have a little Time to build a few Huts before we begin our Planting. In this Belt the whole your Nation joins.

Gave a Belt.

Brother!

We hope also that you will assist our Women with

Provisions and strengthen their Hands to work; for as all our Warriors intend to go and fight the Rebels, our Women will be left intirely to themselves.   Three Strings. —

Colo. Johnson replied

Brothers!

You may remember that I mentioned last Fall and since, that the General had expreſsed his Desire that such Indians as had lost their Villages should settle somewhere upon the Genesea River, near the Lake, where the Veſsels could come on any Occasion; and promised to aſsist them with every Thing that could be neceſsary to forward their Settlements. But besides this and the great Impropriety of going to live upon Lands belonging to other People, I think there are many Places more proper, ~~than~~ convenient than the one you mentioned, and where you may also have Plenty of Hunting & Fishing, such as Cadragoras, and Tanawants. I shall however the first Opportunity consult with the Chiefs of the Six Nations on it, but in the mean Time, I must give it as my private Opinion that you had better fix upon some other Place, and I aſsure you I should not advise you to any Thing

tha

that was not for your Advantage. As to what you say in Regard to your Women, they shall not want for any Necessary that is to be had. — They then took their Leave after getting a Dram.

In the Evening Col^o. Johnson had private Conferences with Kaiashota & Kashawadoo separately, in which, as an Inducement to them to be more earnest in the Business in Hand and to discharge it with more Fidelity, he promised Kiashota that he would give him an hundred Dollars, in Consideration of the Expence and Trouble that he must be at in so long a Journey, that he would give him Part of the Sum before he went, and the Remainder at his Return. And to Kashawadoo he promised likewise an Hundred Do on the same Account.

Wednesday 5^th. Kiashote & Kashawadoo came this Morning with some others of the Deputies that were chosen to accompany them to the Western Nations, when Col^o. Johnson explained to them the following Speech, which he had prepared to send by them:

To the Six Nations, ~~Western Nations in Confederacy with the [illegible]~~ ~~to~~ the Shawanese ~~and~~, Delawares, & all Confederates living [illegible]

Brethren!

that was not for your Adventage. As to what you say in Regard to your Women, they shall not want for any Necessary that is to be had. – They then took their Leave after getting a Dram.

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To the Six Nations, ~~Senecas and Nations in Confederacy with them, and~~
~~to~~ the Shawanese ~~and~~, Delawares, & all Confederates living to the South-West.

Brothers!

249. Brothers!

I am at length once more come among my Children and Friends the Indians, after having been absent from them much longer than I expected, through unavoidable Accidents and Delays. ~~Having been~~ I was ordered to New York by the King, that I might go with the Army up Hudsons River, but this Plan was afterwards changed, and I did not obtain Leave till 1778 to come round by the Way of Canada; whe I met with such bad Weather, that I was obliged to winte at Halifax, from whence I arrived at Quebec last Summe, and made all Expedition to reach this Place, along with a Body of Troops, which yr. Friend Genl. Haldimand sent up to assist ~~where I found my Brethren~~ where I found the Six Natio a good Deal distressed at the Losses they had sustained by the Rebels, who invaded their Country, and destroye some of their Villages; yet they were not cast down but on the contrary eager for Revenge. A few Days after we went Oswego in Hopes of intercepting the Rebels, but were disa pointed by their very precipitate Retreat. But tho disappointed in this, the Six Nations could not rest without taking some Satisfaction for the Injuries done them, and during the Winter upwards of three hundred have gone against the Rebels in different Parties, (from whom I daily expect favorable Accounts;) and many more are preparing to go. They have likewise rejected with Disdain all Applications from the Rebels, and are determined to hold fast by their Engagements with the King, and shew their Enemies they are not discouraged.

Brothers!

I laid ~~your~~ the Hurons Pipe before the great King, who was pleased with the Aſsurances I received from Oghstaghsege, when your People met me at Oswego five Years ago; and the King recommends it to you to continue to deserve his Favor. I have given a good Account to Genl Haldimand of you, and I hope my Words will be made good, as he is a true Friend to all faithful Indians.

Brothers!

I have lately had a Meeting with the Chiefs and three thousand Six Nations, when I renewed and sharpened their Axe, and gave them a new Road Belt to extend through all the Nations, also a large Belt to bind all the Warriors, which I hope they will regard as they ought, and the Six Nations now send a Deputation of some of their Chiefs to explain to you what paſsed on that Occasion. I cannot forbear joining my Hand to theirs, and I sincerely wish, for the Sake both of your Honour and Interests, that their Words

may

251.
may make full Impression on your Hearts, and induce you to exert yourselves against the Rebels, the common Enemies both of you and the King, that I may send a favorable Representation of your Merit and Services to His Majesty, who has been always forward to take Notice of and Reward his Friends with Liberality, as your Brothers the Six Nations, and even yourselves can testify.

Brothers!

I sent a Message to you last Winter, requesting to see some of you at this Place; and lest that should have miscarried, I now take this opportunity to renew my Request, that you would meet me here as soon as possible, that we may confer together Face to Face, ~~of~~ on Matters of Importance to you.

Brothers!

I also request that you will pay no Attention to any Messages that may be sent to you from the Rebels, whose Deceit is well known, and the Effects of it have been severely felt by those few Indians that were at first led to hearken to them. I hope for your own Sakes that you will discountenance all mischevious Reports, and ~~that you will~~ not suffer any bad Birds to come amongst you, to perplex and divide you by their Falshood and Artifice, but keep your

Eyes on the great King and your true Confederates. - I now assure you of my great Esteem and Friendship, which I shall continue to shew for you, and give good Proofs of, while I find the old Engagements observed, as I hope they will be always and you shall find me acting in the same Manner, as your late worthy Friend, my Predecessor, Sir William Johnson, and with an open Heart, and an open Hand to all the Kings friends. I now by this Belt confirm my Words, which I hope you will lay up in your Hearts.

A large black Belt of 13 Rows with 7 white Diamonds.

The Indians approved much of this Speech and said they would be carful to deliver the Belt, that they would not carry the Axe-Belt & Road-Belt with them, but only the Belt to bind the Warriors, on which they would speak very fully. They said they would call Tomorrow to receive Col. Johnsons further Commands, and set out on their Journey, and took their Leave for the Present.

Thursday 6th. Wrote to Major De Peyster, Commanding Officer at Detroit, & Mr. Alexr. McKee, Col. Johnson's Deputy in that Quarter, respecting the Deputies from the Six Nations & their Busine-

Friday

Niagara April 6th. 1780.

Sir,

Since my last of the 10th. Feby. of which for Fear of Accidents, I now send you a Duplicate, four of the most principal Men among the Rebel Indians have come with Proposals of Accommodation from the Rebels to the Six Nations, which they rejected with Contempt: and a few Days ago I had a Meeting with about 3000 of them, when I renewed and sharpened their Axe, and gave them a new Road Belt, at which they expreſsed much Satisfaction, and gave fresh Aſsurances of their persevering in that Zeal and Fidelity to His Majesty, for which they have hitherto been distinguished; and they now send a Deputation of some of their Chiefs to explain what paſsed on that Occasion to the Hurons and their Confederacy, and to the Shawanese and Delawares, and to engage them to act in Conjunction with them against the Rebels. I have given them a Belt and Speech addreſsed to these Nations, which you will please to see delivered to the Shawanese and Delawares, in my Name, should you be amongst them when the Deputies from the Six Nations arrive; but if not there is no Neceſsity for your going to them merely on that Account.

In the Course of the Winter, there has been an extraordinary Meſsage sent to the Delawares of Ohio, from the Wiandots, Chipawas, Pontawatamies, and I believe the Hurons are also concerned in it, advising them to a Neuterality, and to remove and settle among them &ca. This seems to shew a Spirit of Disaffection that ought by all

Alexr. Mc. Kee Esqr.

Means to be extinguished. You will do well to sift this Matter to the Bottom, and I am confident will do every Thing in your Power to confirm such as are wavering, and to make them all Zealous for His Majesty's Interest, which is undoubtedly theirs also. I have wrote to Major De Peyster on this Subject, who will doubtless give every Assistance in any Affair of this Kind.

I have now only to repeat the Request I made in my last, that you would meet me here as early as possible, with some of the Chiefs of the different Nations in your Quarter, and to assure you, that I am,

Sir,

Your Friend & Well-Wisher,

G Johnson

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

May 12th. Within these few days an Express arrived from New York, with papers & Letters to the 6th of April containing the Great & agreable News which you'll find in the Inclosed & of which Majr. Depeyster has farther particulars, we have likewise great reason to believe that Carolina is intirely reduced — sevl. of My Partys are come in with above 50 prisoners & Scalps & many More are out. —

The Mode of passing Indian Accots. here renders it necessary to be very particular but I hope when they are made up, the General will make allowance for the peculiarity of your Situation, on which I shall farther speak to you. —

Quebec April 6th 1780. —

Sir

I have Received Your Letter of the 3d April, with the enclosures, and am Sorry to find, that notwithstanding all the Expences we are at, and all our endeavours to the Contrary, the Canadian Indians are Still capable of holding Friendly Talk with the Oneidas; You must represent to the Mohawks in the Strongest terms the impropriety of Such a Conduct, which I am Confident they never Can approve of. —

You must keep Captain Keyser untill the Navigation opens, when I will Dispose of him in the best Manner I can, tho' if you think him a man on Whose Principles you Can Depend, I will immediatly employ him in the Public Works, where he will Soon earn Something to Clothe him. —

I am with great Regard
Sir
Your most Obedient and
Most humble Servant
Fred: Haldimand

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2. Saturday 8th. Gave Kashawadoa a Coat & Pair of Arm-Bands. —

This Morning an Express arrived from Detroit by which Colo. Johnson received Letters from Mr. Alexr. McKee his Deput inclosing him his Proceedings with some of the Nations in that Quarter, in Consequence of which he proposes to call a Meeting of the Indians here, and explain to them the Intelligence from their Brothers to the Southward, which will detain the Deputies of the Six Nations some Days longer.

These Proceedings set forth that Mr. McKee distributed to the Senecas, or Six Nations Hurons, Delawares & Shawanese at Sandusky the 4th Decr. last, a Quantity of Arms, Ammunition Clothing &c, which was sent thither by the Commanding Officer of Detroit for that Purpose & which they received with may Thanks and Assurances of Fidelity. — From thence he proce to visit the different Villages and at Wakitomikee Jany. 17th. had a Meeting with the Six-Nations, Hurons, Delawares, Shawanese, Miamis, Cherokees of Kiinguen's Party, and Cherokees of Chota. the material Parts of which are as follows.

The Council was opened by the following Address from Peamsiells principal Warrior of the Delawares, to the Raven, Chief of Chota, in Consequence of a Rebel Tomahawk being foun in his Possession.

Found

Grand Children of Chota!

You see here before you at this Council Fire all the Chiefs and Warriors of the several Nations inhabiting this Country, and in their Presence I open your Hand gently and tak out of it a Hatchet delivered to you by a few drunken People of my Nation, in Conjunction with the Big Knife our Enemy In delivering it up, I hope you will throw up every bad Impress on you have received from them to the Satisfaction and De of all Nations present.

The Raven, Chief of Chota then rose up with the Rebel Ha et in his Hand, and spoke as follows.

Elder Brethren of all the different Nations present. - I set out from my Village of Chota in Consequence of a Message I receiv from my Father at Detroit, the Hurons & Delawares of th shaking. On my Journey I was met by some Hurons & Delaw who took me by the Hand and led me to Fort Pitt. There I received this Tomahawk I now hold in my Hand. - I did not refuse it as it was given to me by you, my Grand Fathers the Delawares. I however did not receive it from my Hear or with any Intention to use it against our English Fath or any of you my elder Brethren. Therefore at your Reque Grand-Fathers and all my Brethren present, I here drop it at your Council Fire, leaving it to you to do as you th

pro

proper with it.

He then dropt a large Black Belt of eleven Rows with the Figure of a Hatchet in the Centre of it

Pickanguelis, the Delaware Chief, then took up the Rebel Hatchet the Raven had dropt, and spoke as follows upon it.

Father, Uncles the Six Nations, and all my Grandchildren here present. You now see the Tomahawk that was struck into our Heads last Summer. — None of you can say you are ignorant of the Manner in which it was given up. It must give you all great Pleasure we now have it in our Possession; and I now in Presence of you all deliver it over to my Uncles the Six-Nations, and Grand-Children the Shawanese, to determine what we had best do with it.

Delivered the Rebel Hatchet to the Six Nations.

The Meeting was then adjourned till the next Day, when the West Chief of the Six Nations addressed all present, saying, that he had received from his Nephews the Delawares, the Rebel Hatchet which they had taken out of the Hands of the Cherokees of Chota, and that he now desired the same Cherokees to observe, that he was determined to hold it in his Hand, and as soon as his Warriors could be assembled, would turn its Edge upon those who had directed it towards him; that all those Nations of his own Colour, with his Father, who wer united in one Cause, would assist him in executing his Desig that in Confirmation of his Resolution, he now delivered The Hatchet into the Hands of the Warriors of his younger Brethren the Shawanese.

Delivered the Hatchet to Wry-Neck, Principal Warrior of the Pickowie Tribe of Shawanese.

Having finished his Business in the Indian Villages Mr. McKee returned to Detroit, accompanied with some of the Chiefs of the different Nations, whose Business is, to solicit the Commanding Officer earnestly for Assistance; as also the Confederacies of the Lake and Wabash. — These Chiefs have left a Quantity of Wampum & some Scalps with the Commanding Office which is to be sent to the Six Nations, to condole with the and replace several of their Principal Warriors who have fall in this War.

Sunday 9th. The Accounts received by Express were to Day communicated to the Deputies of the Six Nations, and Kiashota received three Half Joes from Col. Johnson to buy himself a Horse, and also some Silver-Works to purchase Necessaries on his Journey.

Monday 10th. This Morning anadawna Chief Canighsaga an another Indian just arrived from Canachadeia, waited on Col.

John

another was given to replace a Mohawk; and the third to replace a Seneca.

Thursday 13th a Chief of Condache waited on Colo. Johnson this Morning and told him that he and seven of his People wished to go and join a Party that was to go out from Carachadeia, and that they thought, they would have Time enough to pay a Visit to the Rebels before their Deputies to the Westward could return; and requested some Ammunition, Shoes and other Necessaries to fit them out. Colo. Johnson approved of their Zeal, and told them they should have such Things as were necessary, observing that the Deputation to the Westward would certainly be no Obstruction, to any of their Operations & Excursions.

Friday 14th. This Morning the Infant called on Colo. Johnson informing him that he intended to return to Carachadeia Tomorrow. Colo. Johnson after acquainting him with the Intelligence from Canada and the Westward, gave him a Belt in Order to replace Odunqwat, with which he was much pleased, and said the Party had two other Belts, one to replace Segorius a Seneca who died at this Place and the other : Colo. Johnson also wrote by him to the Spruce Carrier to inform him of Parts of the Intelligence received by the late Expreſs as migh be neceſsary for the Indians to know.

Soon after Sayangwraghta and a Number of the other Chief and Indians met, when Colº. Johnson first acquainted them w the Intelligence respecting the Indians received from Mr. Mc. Kee at Detroit, and then with the Accounts received from Canada, namely that the Indians in that Quarter were in good Spirit and that several Parties of them were out against the Rebels: that the bad Crops of Wheat and other Kinds of Grain, throu out all the Colonies, had driven the Rebels to the greate Extremity on Account of Provisions, which excited such a Spirit of Discontent among the People, as, it was apprehe ed, would prove fatal to the Congreſs: that Desertion prevaile very much in their Army: that the Rebels in Conjuncti with the French under Count D'Estang had make an Attack upon the Kings Forces at Savannah & Georgia, but were repulsed three several Times with great Loſs, and the Fr obliged to embark on Board their Fleet which was afterwa met by Admiral Byron, who took & sunk several of their of War and 20 Transports which he carried with him into New York: that General Clinton had been able to detach a large Number of his Troops to the Southward, who, it was expected, would overrun both the Carolinas, and return to New York early enough for any Operations in the Spring. Col. Johnson then observed that he did not wish to mislead or impose upon them, but that from every Account, there was now a greater Appearance of terminating the present War in Favor of the King, than there had been for some Time. He then read to them Part of the Generals Letter wherein he mentions that he had collected a Quantity of Indian Corn, which should be sent by the first Veſsels, and which he would have distributed among such Indians as were inclined to settle upon the Genesea River, declaring that this Measure he desired merely for their own Conveniency, and aſsuring them that he would do every Thing in his Power for them. He then told them that 50 of their Warriors and some white Men, were gone from Carleton Island to the Mohawk River and that he soon expected favorable Accounts from them. — He then explained to them the following Proceedings transmitted to him from Canada.

263. Answers to Belts, sent by the Flat-Heads last fall, and f
warded by the Six Nations to the Canada Confederacy.

The Speech to the Abenaquis in Presence of Lieut. Col.
Campbell,-the Mohocks & others of the Five Nations, the Indians of the Lake and some of the upper Nations.

Brothers of the Six Nations!

We thank the Father of Life for
having inclined our Brothers the Flat-Heads to communica
to us their Decision on the Part they will act, and we entrea
you to transmit to them our Sentiments.

Gave two Strings of Wamp

Brothers, the Flat-Heads!

We have duly attended to the Speech
you sent us, and perceive with Pleasure, that it is the great
Spirit that inspires us Indians from the Rising to the Settin
of the Sun, to unite in keeping our Engagements with the
King who has been always a good Father to us. We Brothers a
the original Possessors of this Continent; let us rouse then
and repel the Rebels who are the Disturbers of our Peace,
and Enemies to the King our good Father.

Gave a Belt.

Brot

Brothers.

We have another Speech to deliver from our Brothers the Razmousqués or Musk-Rat Nation.

Brothers! We the Rasmousqués are happy in an Opportunity of acquainting you in the West with the Treachery which the Bostonians have used in Regard to us. About three Months ago they visited us and asked what Side we would take, whether we would declare for them or the King. We answered them that we were neuter which was what they required of us two Years ago; that we remained quiet in our Hutts, that we enjoyed our Fire-Places in Peace, and that the Smoke which issued from them, did not ascend higher than the Trees. At the Conclusion of the Meeting we shook Hands without Anger. Fifteen Days after two of our young Men who were out a Hunting, discovered a large beaten Path which led to us. The Hunters informed us that we should be soon attacked, upon which we made all Haste, to secure our Old Men, Women, and Children at the back of a Mountain, after which the Sachems & Warriors of the Village assembled, and determined to meet and attack them at a Distance, that our Village might not be infected by them. The Next Day we set out, and met them about 9 OClock: we challenged them, & asked them whence they came, and whither they were going. They answere were Bostonians and came to destroy our Village. We then ga the War-Whoop, & began a heavy Fire upon them, which las till about three O'Clock in the Afternoon. We lost in the Engagement four Warriors, and the Enemy retreated carryi with them their killed and wounded; as we were so fatigued with the Engagement, that we were quite unable to pursue them. This Brothers is but one Instance of the Treacher of these Villains, which they are almost continually practisin

The Answer of the seven Nations of Canada to the Belt of the Flat-Heads.

Brothers! Your Belt was delivered to us by our Bro of the Six Nations last Fall, by which you engage us to be diligent and attentive for the good Purpose of joining in Sentiment with the King our Father, and of preserving ou Rights against the Bostonians who are full of Treachery, and meditate our Ruin.

Brothers!

We can give you no Answer but that whi we have already given all the Nations from the Sun's Rising to its Setting; that as true Subjects we are determ ed without Exception to support the Kings Cause to th utmost of our Ability while his Fire burns among us, and we bind you my Bretheren by this Belt, to act the same Part, and be firm to your Engagements, not only to fight against the Rebels, but also to be obedient, and punctually obey the Orders you shall receive from his Officers.

We fervently entreat the Great-Spirit to continue us in Peace with the King our Father, and with all the Indian Nations who are well disposed.

Dated at LaChine the 10th. Jan.y 1780. —

Tsyangaraghta then got up, and addressed Col.l Johnson as follows,

Brother Goragh Wraghqueadarha!

We heard with great Satisfaction every Thing you told us as well from the General as respecting the Intelligence from Detroit, Carleton-Island and the State of the Rebels. We rejoyce to find that our Conduct is approved of, and we shall do all that we can to shew that we have attended to the [illegible] Good of the common Cause. We are very thankful to you for what you have said, and for observing your old Customs, we hope to hear always from you respecting public Affairs, and as you formerly recommended, we shall ever be ready to open

our

267. our Hearts to you and tell you every Thing interesting.

We shall take the Belts &ca from our Confederates in Canada in Consideration, and with your Assistance forwar their Words, giving you Notice when we are ready

Saturday 15th.. The Infant with seventeen others came to take Leave of Col. Johnson, being to set out for Carachadeea in the Cour of the Day, from whence they intend to proceed immediately with a Number of others against the Rebels.

Soon after Cakahkodie and twenty other Indians came in from Kadarangoas, they brought Letters from Lieut. Johnson, wh writes that the Indians in that Quarter appear to be much pleased with the Reception they have met with here, and that Segeghgowas is preparing a Party of 50 Warriors, to st a Blow on the Frontiers of Pennsylvania. These Indians brought with them a Prisoner Woman & Child, which Col. Jo ton had some Time ago redeemed from the Delawares. Aft usual Compliments Col. Johnson told them, as they must a good Deal fatigued with their Journey he would order them some Liquor and Provisions, and after they had rested an refreshed themselves, would communicate to them the Intelligence he had lately received from Canada & Detr

Quebec,

May 1780.

By His Excellency General Haldimand Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in the Province of Quebec & Dependencies &c. &c. &c.

Answer to a Speech addressed to His Excellency before Capt. Fraser Commanding at Carleton Island & the Indian Officer of the 6 Nation Department & others by the Mohawk, Onondago,Cayouga & Delaware Indians the 19th. febr^{y}- '80; In behalf of the whole Confederacy.

After the usual salutation and condolence with the 6 Nation Deputies for the Loss of 5 Mohawk Warriors killed lately by the Rebells, the Mohawk being the senior Brother of the Confederacy they are to be considered as Mourners and cannot be expected to transact Business:before dondoled with by 3 Strings of Wampum

Bretheren of the six confederate Nations.

It is with pleasure I address you in Answer to your friendly Speech delivered to Captain Fraser commanding Carleton Island and in return most cordially salute you in your Confederacy, and bid you wellcome to this Province, at the same time am well pleased you are come yourselves for my Answer upon your Speech w^{ch}-- I am now going to give you as justly and concisely as the Subject of the Matter will allow me With regard to my not sending your Friend Sir J. J. as soon as I intended & acquainted ~~you~~ you by Jos. Brant last Spring

I can assure you Brethn- that my Intention was sincere & fixed and I made preparation for putting it in Execution, but you must in reason allow that in Time of War we must watch the Motions of our Enemy wch. we cannot always know and forsee. The Rebells only last Summer marched a Body of Men towards this Province by Commecticutt River wth. a General Officer at their head well acquainted with this Province and even begun opening a Road towards Lake Champlain. Should I then persist in my plan of stripping the Province of a Body of Men who in case of an Invasion might be the Means of saving the province, such a Step I could not answer to my King and Country for what would the Consequence be of this Country's falling in the Hands of the Rebells but your entire Ruin Your Supplies would be cut off from you & you and you & your Country fall at the mercy of the Rebels. This Brothers is the Reason of Sir Jno. Johnson was not sent sooner; At the same Time when I heard of the Motion of y'Rebels towards your Country I was convinced it could not be formidable enough to be able to lay Seige to Niagara as I was well acquainted with the great Strength of the King's Troops along the Sea Coast who keep the Rebels in continual Motion & Alarm of which the rebel Officer & party that were taken by your people near Chenussio (?), convinced you by telling you that their army was ordered back to fight the King's Troops and wch. was the Case for they returned from Chenussio and marched towards the Sea Coast, The whole Rebel Army being in motion to attack the King's Troops and after their being joined by a french General wth. 5000 french Soldiers under his Command they jointly made three different Attacks upon the King of England's your Father's Troops and were every time repulsed with great Slaughter, and both french and Rebel leaving the King's Troops Masters of that Country, after the french General's receiving two wounds & a great Rebel General killed, with many other Officers of Rank both french & rebels & abt. 5000 Soldiers killed & wounded so that they paid severely for their Expedition into your Country, wch. must convince you that the King, your Father's War ax was not dull as you seem to hint, and it is likewise confidently asscerted that the french and Rebels fell out with one another fought each other and parted Enemies wch. may occasion a great Change in favour of the King your Father whose Efforts from the Begin^{g}- of this Rebellion have been very vigorous and expensive tho' inconceiveable to you who are on the Frontiers, and see only now and then small bodies of Rebels in Comparison as a small Rivulet is to a great River but in all Appearance were aided by the powerfull Spirit above who will probably end it in his favor, for since the french so unjustly joined the Rebels they never met with any Success but lost their valuable Country in the East and a vast number of Ships & Treasure in the west & the English Ships have the advantage over the french everywhere & are Masters at Sea. An other great Instance of the Great Spirit's favoring the King's Cause is the great Plenty of Provisions in his Country since the Beg^{g}- of the Rebel^{N}- to supply not only his Numerous Armies & Fleets which consist of near 40000 men but likewise his Islands in the West wch. were supplied formerly by the Rebels and even this Country of Canada for you would be amazed was you to see the Quantity of Provision the King sent yearly to the posts in your Country for your & their Support it would not be possible for any other Power or Prince to suppor it; And it is easily demanded to send a Body Troops here & an other there, but these Troops cannot march or remain in any place without a competend Quantity of Provision, Implements of War Cloaths & other Necessaries wch. they cannot carry all upon their Backs but must be transported by Land and Water wth. great Expence and Trouble. You cannot imagine what a General Officer has to think of in fitting out an Expedi-tion could Soldiers march without the above requisites it would be an easy Matter to send them at a Call, but without them they cannot move. For which reason Bro^{rs}. I have not lost ~~s~~sight of what you request with regard to Oswego and am any time able and willing to manifest the King your Father's regard for you in sending you Assistance as long as you are deserving of it and Batteaux are already upon the goe for that purpose. As to the Report you have of the Rebels taking possession of Oswego I do not see how they can effect it when I have repeated Authentic Accounts that with Difficulty they are able to keep up the Garrison of Fort Stanwin with provs. &c. besides there is a great change in their Affairs since last Fall for the worse and if they have disagreed with France they are incapable of carrying on the Rebellion by themselves, for their Crops in y^{e} Colonies have failed as well as in Canada wch. has y^{e} King's people now for 18 months passt been supplied wth. provisions from the King's Country; so that I cannot comprehend how the Rebels could equip such a Body as to be formidable enough to take post at Oswego and as to a small Body they know the Difficulty of the Rout too well as to expose themselves to fall a prey to the King's friends & allies the 6 Nats. I assure you Brothrs. their Situation is too low to act upon the Offensive & establish & keep up new posts. At the same time I have already taken Measures towards the Support & protection of your Country & familys but you will soon hear farther from me after the Arrival of the Great Ships from England by wch. I expect inteesting & favourable Accounts towards seeing an End of this unnatural War of the King's Children who first begun to fight the Indns. upon the Ohio for their Lands when they could obtain no Encouragement from ye King of taking possession of it they threw off their Obedience to him.& attempted to banish him out of America, and then you may easily conceive what your Situation would have been had they succeeded, so that your welfare is greatly concerned in this contest. It is true ~~that~~ you have had some of your Towns & your Crops burn'd and destroyed wch. is a Loss easily repaired; All the King's loyal Subjects in the Colonies are worse off many of them and entirely ruin'd & have died for want, wch is far from being your Case.

Montreal 1st May 1780

Sir

I had the Honor of receiving your Excellencys Letr of 24th Ulto. and agreable thereto have condoled with the Mohawk Indians in your Excellencys Name a ceremony that according to their Custom was indispensably necessary to be performed before their going on Service, and which they took extremely kind and return their most hearty Thanks to your Excellency; They are now ready to set out at a Minutes Warning, with the Canada Indians who

To His Excellency
General Haldimand
&c. &c. &c.

who are not arrived from St Regis.

Last Saturday arrived here the two principal Chiefs of the six Nations that wintered at Carleton Island with a Suit of 28 more including Women & children; One of the Chiefs Teyohakweande having been upon a Scout lately, to where Ct Keyser was taken, and brought away 17 of the Settlers, people that did not medle in the Rebellion, and even were encouraged by Joseph Brant when he struck at the German Flatts in 1778 to remain quiet upon their Farms; Several of these Prisoners were Tenants to Sr John & me; and last Fall the St Regis Indians brought five of my Tenants from the same Spot; It seems those with the Swegachys and Misisageys are particularly fond of going to that Spot it being out of the Way of Danger and little or no Service done; Capt Keyser says the party that took him might have taken the above, and the whole Settlement besides with Ease, as the people did not mean to defend themselves; They left all the Prisoners at Carleton Isld except One whom they brought here in order to adopt him into an Indian Family at the Lake of two Mountains

I desired them to wait untill I could receive Your Excellys

Excellencys Orders about the Man it having not been customary in this province during the Rebellion for any Indians residing in it to keep rebel prisoners, but deliver them up to the General immediately. The Mans Name is Jacob Yorker was a Tenant of Sr. Johns and has a Brother in his Regiment, and would be happy to enlist likewise.—

These Indians are come down I find in behalf of the 6 Nations, to receive the Answer upon the Speech they sent to Your Excellency last February thro' Captain Fraser. They talked of going all the Way to Quebec, but I put them off for awhile and Lodged them in the Suburbs where they are contented.

I had a Letter from Capt. Tice at Carleton Island which contains nothing worth communicating, the little News these prisoners have, is stale & well known to Your Excellency. He adds the Indians at Carleton I. would be glad to have a spot of Ground assigned to them for planting of Indian Corn &ca.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect

Sir Your Excellencys

Most obedient and
Most Obliged Hble Servant,
Danl. Claus.

From A 1780
Colonel Claus —
of the 1st May — Rec.d 3. J.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Sir Montreal 1st May 1780.

I had the Honor of receiving Your Excellencys Letter of 24 Ulto and agreeable thereto have fully condoled wth the Mohawks in yor Excelly's Name for their late Loss wch they took extreamly kind & return their hearty Thanks. They are ready to set out wth the Canada Inds wch I suppose will be by Wednesday. Last Saturday arrived here the two principal Chiefs of the 6 Nations that wintered at Carleton Island, with a Party of 28 more Men Wom. & Child. in all 30. One of the Chiefs Teyohaquende returning lately from a Scout near ~~on~~ the Mohawk River upon the Royal Grant ~~Heights~~ and took 17 of the Settlers there, Neighbours to Capt. Keyser and people that did not meddle in the Rebellion & even were encouraged by Jos. Brant when he cut off the Germn. Flatts 2 year ago, to remain quiet upon their Farms several ~~most~~ of the Prisrs were Tenants to Sr John, and last fall the St Regis Inds brought five of my Tenants from the same Spot. The Inds from St Regis, Swegachy & that Neighbourhood ~~are~~ seem particularly fond of going to that Spot it being in the Woods & attended with no Danger, Capt Keyser says the party that took him might have taken all there & the whole Settlement besides without opposition as the people were not on their guard or meant to defend themselves. The Swegachy Indians who were with said Party brought one of the Prisrs Jacob Yocker a Tenant of Sr Jno Johnsons to this place in order to be delivered ~~to Restore~~ to his family at the Lake of the 2 Mounts. I wanted to bring him over to them today but I told them [illegible] first report the Man to Your Excelly as it had not been customary during the Rebellion that any rebel Pris.rs taken by any Ind.ns residing in this Province were kept by them but delivered up immediately. Youcker has a Brother who is a Soldier in Sir Johns Regt & is willing himself to engage in it. By what I can learn from these chiefs they come in behalf of the 6 Nations for an Answer upon the Speech they sent to your Excelly last Febry thro' Captn Fraser & which you received before my leaving Quebec, they talk of ~~[illegible]~~ going to Quebec but I put them off the Notion for a while and quartered them in the Suburbs of Quebec where they are contented. I had a Letter from Captn Tice ~~[illegible]~~ at Carleton who has nothing worth Communicating the little Intelligence these Pris.rs brought is stale & of an old date & well known to your Excelly — He says the Indians at Carleton Island would be glad to have a spot of Ground assigned to them for to plant Corn ~~&c~~

I have the Honor to be &c

D. Claus

His Excellency
General Haldimand
&c &c &c.

To Genl Haldim:
1st May 1780.

Montreal, 1st May 1780

Sir

I had the Honor of receiving Your Excell'y's Letter of 24 Ultimo and agreeable thereto have fully condoled with the Mohawks in Your Excell'y's Name for their late loss which they took extremely kind & return their hearty Thanks. They are ready to set out with the Canada Indians which I suppose will be by Wednesday.

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I have the Honor to be &c.

D Claus

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

(Copy)

Quebec 4th May 1780. —

Sir

I have Received Your Letter of the 1st Instt., and am pleased the Mohawk Indians have Received my Condolance for their Late Misfortune in the friendly manner it was intended. —

I am concerned the Scout from Carleton Island should, whether from Design or Accident, have so unfortunately directed their Last Stroke, it cannot now be remedied and it would be dangerous to impute it to the former, as it would Create Many Jealousies, and at Best Occasion a Slackness in Scouts that Might be very prejudicial to the Service — I shall write to Captain Fraser to Make Choice of Some Persons who have a knowledge of the Well Affected people to Accompany Scouts Sent into That Country in future, Which I hope will in a great measure lessen an Evil, Which, in the present Situation of Affairs, Cannot be intirely prevented. —

The Idea of Adoption must be totally discouraged, and you will inform them that the present War being different from a Foreign one, all the Kings undutiful Children Who are taken in it Whether by White Men or Indians, must be Delivered up, to be Corrected by their Father as he shall think fit — I have no objection to Tucker Joining Sir John Johnson, but appearance must be Saved with the Indians, and it will never answer to give Freedom to those they have brought in Prisoners — I shall Strive to Make their Misfortune Sit as light as possible by procuring Employment for them in this Neighbourhood Where they will be kindly Treated, have Comfortable food and earn Some Money to furnish themselves with Necessaries they Must therefore be forwarded Prisoners to this place by any Vessel that May be ready on their Arrival at Montreal

In —

Col. Claus —

In Regard to an answer to the Speech of the Six Nations Indians adressed to me through Capt: Fraser the 19th of last February, which I inclose to You (and which You will please to Return) You will form one from the following Heads, & transmit it to me to peruse before You deliver it. It is necessary to acquaint You that if I find it practicable by a Seasonable and Sufficient Supply of Provisions, it is my Intention to take Post at Oswego, but as my doing it with Success, as well as preventing the Rebels from being before hand with me, will depend intirely upon my being able to keep Secret my Intention — it would be very imprudence to mention it in my Answer to the Indians who on the other hand will expect it —— If you think You can with Safety mention it to any of the Soberest & most prudent Chiefs, & that it will answer a good Purpose, you may do it, but it will be Necessary to observe the greatest Caution. —— Salute them in the usual Manner, & acquaint them, that if I did not Send them the Assistance they Required last Year, it was not for want of the Kindest Inclinations to protect them, of which, the Readiness with which I dispatched their Friend Sir John Johnson ought to have Convinced them. ——

They Complain of the small number of Warriors I have sent both times to their Assistance — They Should Consider that Warriors must Eat, and if I had only my own to Maintain I should Send a force Sufficient to Oppose every Attempt of the Rebels — but as I Considered them, their Women and Children in Common with my own People, & allways Shall while they remain faithfull to their Father, I could not See them Starve and therefore employed Provisions & Battiaux to Carry it for their use instead of increasing the Number of my Warriors they have, many of them been up & down the Rappids and

Lakes, they should consider the Trouble, expence and Time it takes to Transport Provisions, not only to Niagara but all the Way to Detroit & Michilimakinac &c they should likewise reflect that owing to the Failure of the Crops every ounce of Provisions they and We have been living upon these 18 Months past was brought from England — The Rumour prevailing amongst them that the Rebels intend Coming early to Oswego Falls, if true, ought to give them very little Concern — It is very Certain they are no longer in a Condition to appear in the Force they did last Year and that the Route by which they must come, is so difficult, that a very few Indians, Judiciously disposed of would render it impracticable — they should Consider that a well timed Resistance would prevent, a small number from Establishing themselves, which it would be necessary to Send a large Body to drive out of the Country &c —

In Regard to Oswego, I have not lost Sight of my Intention to gratify their Wishes by taking post there, that at present it is not in my Power to Say all I wish to Say to them upon that Subject — as they have desired my answer to their Speech, I do not wish to withold it from them, but I hope the arrival of the fleet will enable me to Let them hear from me soon again — in the mean time they may Rest assured of firmly enjoying my Protection — I have already begun to Transport Provisions to Support them, and to Enable me to Send more Troops and Larger Batts than ever they have yet seen, to preserve them in the Enjoyment of their Homes & Families — You will of Course add much to these Hints, & give them all the favorable news we have Learned in the Course of the Winter — You, who are so perfectly acquainted with the Situation of Oswego River, must be Satisfied of the Impossibility of a Body of the Rebels making their way to Oswego, if the 5 Nations are determined to oppose them vigorously at the difficult Passes — I am &c — (Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Copy
To Colonel Claus —
7th Augt 1780

British Museum

Oghnyoreqe Island, May 9th 1780.

My elder brother,

I received your writing (letter). We were greatly pleased with it and made us happy for what you have done that we may preserve it Godward. Be of this mind, that we and our bretheren, the Seven Nations, and Sir John Johnson, have decided to be of one mind, like one person, while we are together, when we are called to deliberate on anything.

This is all, my elder brother. I was sorry to hear of your illness. Farewell.

Col. Claus, at Montreal

I, John Odeserontyon.

Though I have many matters to write you about, but I have no paper.

1780
From Col. Claus, of the 15th May
Recd. 17th

Montreal 15th May 1780

Sir

After my letter to Your Excellency of the first Inst. I was employed getting the Mohawks ready to proceed to Pointaufer thro the woods, telling them I would meet them there myself; accordingly left this the 6th with Sr. Jno. Johnson & Mr. Langan /: the latter is to take Care of the Mohawks on the March. In our way to St. Johns we were delayed on Accot. of Carriages, which occasioned our travelling in a cold & Dampe Evening, and I was about 4 in the Morning attacked with a fit of the Gout & found it unadvised to proceed, and therefore acquainted the Indians in writing with my Disappointment in seeing them off, giving

His Excellency
General Haldimand
&c. &c. &c.
}

giving them ample Directions accompanied wth. Wampum with regard to their Conduct during the Excursion, which I expect will have more Impression upon them than a verbal Advice, & keep fresh in their Memory. Upon the Receipt of your Excellencys Letter of the 4th. Inst. I endeavoured to convene the 6 Nation Deputies to hear what they had to say in full Meeting, since the Account I gave your Excelly. of their Embassy I pick'd out only from one of the Chiefs in a Hurry, as they seldom will deliver a Message singly, and for Fear of his having omitted any point necessary to be answered by Your Excellency. — But their finding themselves in a place where Liquor was easier to be had than at Carleton Island, I could not effect it so as to get your Excellencys Answer ready to be sent by last Post. — All they added in their formal Speech was that they said they expected the Troops for that Quarter to be upon the Move, and recommended all possible Dispatch; At the same time as they proposed after leaving this to go on directly for Niagara and join the rest of the Confederacy, they would be glad to carry what News they could collect here, and might be depended upon, as the 6 Nations would expect to receive all News from them as such, in particular Teyohaqueande said he allways bore the Character of carrying true Intelligence which by all Means he would choose to preserve. —

I now inclose Your Excellency the Answer I took upon me to form, from your Hints. —

My bringing in Hayzen and his Men on Connt. River I thought a plausible Reason for the Delay of St. Johns Men, as they generally expect some Reason to be given, when a Promise cannot be strictly fullfilled, as to the Excuse on Acct. of the Transportation of Provisions, they say the Troops that were destin'd for the Expedition, might have carried it in their Boats as they did going to Fort Stanwix in 1777. — My mentioning the Strength of the British Forces by Land & Sea is because they say they are told, that our Troops are as numerous as the Leaves on the Trees, yet say they we cannot see these Numbers, and that the Kings War Ax is but dull, i: e: no great Feats done against the Rebels hitherto. — &c. —

The six Nations have a ridiculous Notion that they hold the Ballance of Power on the Continent, and which has hitherto not been argued against but rather acquiesced in on our side. The French from the peace of 1748. spared no Expence & Trouble to gain over all the Indn. Nations on the N. American Continent, and in a Manner obtained their End while it was peace, and during the war, while they were successfull, but as soon that failed all the Expence was thrown away & they joined their Enemies, when not wanted, and plundered their late Bribers & Friends. the only way to get them to act hearty is to make them loose blood if they can be brought to it, when savage Revenge will out do all Bribery &c wch is what brought them to act as they did since after their Loss at Oriskene Action in 1777. otherwise they would have joined the Rebels after the Convention. —

Lady Johnson bid me mention to your Excellency with her Respects that she would be glad to learn from you whether she might have her young Daughter baptized by Proxy, in which case she begs your Excellency will mention the Person; the child's Name is to be Catharine it is sometimes sickly.

I have the Honor to be with very great Respect

Sir Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and
Obliged humble Servant
Dan. Claus

BRITISH MUSEUM

Copy

Quebec 18th May 1780. —

Sir

I have Received Your Letter of the 15th Instant Covering the Proposed Speech to the Deputation from the Six Nation Indians, which I think Very Proper, but as they are So Desirous of being the Messengers of authentick News only, I wish to Defer finishing with them, in hopes that in a few Days I may have it in my Power to gratify their Wishes by the Arrival of favorable Intelligence from England —

Two Vessels arrived Yesterday from Surinam and bring accounts that Sir George Rodney had Engaged a Spanish fleet, and taken Eleven Vessels — if this News should prove authentick, it will be Worth confirming to the Deputation, and it is likely it may be attended with other favorable Circumstances —

I am &c —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Col: Claus. —

Copy 1780

To Col. Claus, of the 18th May —

[illegible] 10th May [illegible]

Sir

I am concerned to acquaint Your Excellency that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] and of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] days of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with difficulty [illegible] been [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] — The [illegible] & all the [illegible] [illegible] of the Country [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] much relief by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] gathered by the [illegible] which I am [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The New [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] much [illegible] & I [illegible] [illegible] gathering by the [illegible] which [illegible] [illegible] the Complaint.

The [illegible] April [illegible] the [illegible] and the [illegible] which [illegible] intended for the Mohawk River [illegible] this place [illegible] day [illegible] [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] to the place they [illegible] to [illegible] that [illegible] to go to the Mohawk River and [illegible] probably be there [illegible] the [illegible] they [illegible] there by [illegible] diligently [illegible] but I [illegible]

to know the exact number he would have with him
going there & the same time to understand that they
must be a good deal more than they are. They
then informed him with much seeming satisfaction
[illegible] the following numbers fifty — but they were
[illegible] [illegible] from their Book on the [illegible]
the [illegible] than the [illegible] & Chippewas against
Mr Crawford that they would [illegible] to shew
they were [illegible] they would [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] going there and
[illegible] and as they were [illegible] for the
purpose of making [illegible] informed the
other party — but they answered they had been told
[illegible] before they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and
they [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Mr
Crawford then [illegible] the [illegible] & [illegible]
& the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] the White Man they had been [illegible] they

purpose of making a [illegible] in respect of the
other party – but they answered they had [illegible]
[illegible] before they set off [illegible] she and
they [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Mr
Crawford then said to the Messengers [illegible]
& the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] whether they would
go with the [illegible] When they [illegible] they
readily answered they would be blamed [illegible]
for not going but the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] they [illegible] to the [illegible]
[illegible] that they were afraid to differ with Mr
McCrawford and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] for fear they might [illegible] up the [illegible] if they
should [illegible] any. Mr Crawford then [illegible] the Officer [illegible]
gone with them to Fort Stevens — Your Excellency will
perceive by this how little dependence is to be put on
such Villains – even when they appear most zealous for

the Season — The [illegible] of them [illegible] to the Fort [illegible] that [illegible] as long [illegible] [illegible] year —

There is [illegible] for the [illegible] if we had two [illegible] for the [illegible] great [illegible] or powder [illegible] [illegible] —

On the [illegible] from [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] them, [illegible] they [illegible] [illegible]

I have the honor to be with great Respect

Sir

Your Excellency's most obed^t

humble Servant

A. Fraser

From Do 1780
Col.l Johnson 18th May
Recd. 31st —

Niagara June 1st 1780.-

Sir,

I have the Honor to inclose a short return of the Indians to this date, and also of partys now on the frontiers against the Rebels, and at the same time to inform your Excellency that Mr McKee has lately transmitted me an Account of pay for himself, and others employed under him during my absence, together with an Accot of Disbursements and such Vouchers as from his Situation he was enabled to procure.- for the whole of which he drew a bill on me,- I have received some pay formerly on his accounts, but from the other particulars in his, and the Mode practised here respecting Public Accounts It is necessary that I shou'd receive your Excellencys farther directions, as perhaps he may have received some pay at Detroit, Mr. McKee is a good attentive Officer, and I believe that he is at present very usefully employed with Indians over whom he has influence, particularly the Shawanese and Six Nations of Ohio, who are a part of the Six Nations immediately confederated with & always held dependant on them, which may make his Services necessary for me when there is no more important duty for him, he was made one of Sir Wm Johnsons three Deputys on the resignation of Mr Croghan, and was always after continued as one of mine.-

The Village of Kadaragaras (on a River which emptys into the South side of Lake Erie about 40 Miles beyond Fort Erie) is now much encreased, I have drawn together the people of the Scatter'd Villages that were destroyed by the Virginians to that place, as it is one of the frontiers, and on a route to Ohio, they already amount to near 700 Souls, and are very conveniently Situated, Their Chiefs have repeatedly sollicitted me to go there, and I have likewise prevailed on a very large party to settle at Buffaloe creek, on all

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

which Lt Colo Bolton writes to your Excellency, My presence in them Quarters will encourage them, and draw others away to plant, as It is impoſsible to draw them all to the Seneca River and I believe your Excellency will find that they now form a more usefull Circle equidistant from this place; I am therefore this Moment setting out for their different cantonmen and expect to return in about a fortnight, having likewise to send a large Party to the Fort Pitt Road from Kadaragara

The Indians have made ardent application to me about Hoes and Corn, some of the latter is arrived, but can be of little use without the former, I am neceſsitated to mention this to your Excellency, and I remain with the utmost respect Sir,

Your Excellencys Most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant

G Johnson

MUSEUM

from 1780
Colonel Johnson
1st June Recd 11th

Niagara June 15th 1780.—

Sir,

At the request of my Officers, I presume to transmit a Memord which they have long sollicitted me about, as they have done Lt Col Bolton, to whom I have mentioned it.—

I wou'd by no means incline to give your Excelly the smallest unnecessary trouble, altho' I cannot help testifying my high approbation of their conduct and my long acquaintance with them, as I am persuaded they are in general, Alert, Gallant and Usefull Officers, which I hope will plead my Apology for the Liberty I now take.— Lt Col. Butler has promised his good Offices and representations in their favor, and I inclose a Copy of one of Lord Amhersts Commissions to the Indian Officers last War, for Your Excellencys Inspection, and I have the Honor to be most respectfully Sir,

Your Excellencys most Obedient
and most humble Servant

G Johnson

His Excellcy
General Haldimand &c &c

Proceedings of a Meeting with the Deputies of the Six Nations on their Return from the Southward. - Niagara June 17th. 1780. -

This Day Kayashota, and the other Deputies returned from the Southward had their public Audience.

Present.

Col. Guy Johnson Supt.
Jno. Dease Esqr. Depy.
Capt. Powel
Capt. Nellis
Capt. Brant

Lieut. Hyllier
Lieut. Dottinge
Lieut. Younge
Richd. Cartwright Secy.
Nichs. Stevens Intery.

Aaron, Chief of the Mohawks.
Sayangaraghta
Kayashota
Kayantaghte &c } Senecas

Atteraiwana
Gingage
Haca [illegible]
Ang [illegible] } Cayugas

and many others of the Six Nations, Delawares & a few Messisaugoes.

After all were assembled, the Calumet smoked and the usual Compliments made, Kayashota spoke as follows

Brothers!

When we arrived among the Hurons, and acquainted them with our Business, they gave us this Pipe of Friendship, which belonged to their Confederacy and the seven Nations of Canada and all their other Allies, to be smoked by the Six Nations, and to be lodged as a Testimonial of their Friendship & Union with them, at the Fire-Place where Col. Johnson presides.

Gave the Calumet, with the Figure of a Man on Horseback carved on it.

Then having ranged his Belts in Order on the Table, he took up a Scalp with a Number of Strings of Wampum fastened to it, and proceeded.

Brothers! This is the Flesh of a Virginian, taken by your Brothers the Shawanese & Delawares of Sciota, which they have sent to you to replace your Chief Tekanade, that he may be once more amongst you.

Gave the Scalp. —

Then taking up another Scalp with a Bunch of Wampum likewise fastened to it, he gave that in the Name of the Hurons, to replace the Bunt, late Chief of Onondago

Then taking up a Road Belt he repeated what had been given him in Charge to say on Col. Johnsons Road Belt, and delivered the Answer of the Hurons and that Confederacy as follows,

Brother!

We are exceedingly glad that you have cleared the Road & Communication from Quebec to us and our Allies, with your Road Belt, and that the Six Nations have joined you therein. We have long expected that this would have been done, and are happy that you have at length performed it. We return you Thanks for it, and shall make Use of it, and in Return give you this Road Belt, on which all the Nations of our Confederacy are marked, and which we desire you and the Six Nations will Use in the same Manner, and be assured that we shall, according to your Advice carefully watch the Road, and suffer Nothing

to

3. to obstruct it with Impunity.

Gave a long black Belt of 13 Rows with 14 white Squ

and a white Road of 3 Rows through the Whole.

He then repeated what Col. Johnson had said on shar

ening the Axe, to which they answered,

Brother!

We are likewise very happy that you have sharpened the Axe of all our Confederacies, and that the Six Nations have joined in it. We have been lately making Use of ours, but we shall now cut deeper as we f that every Nation holds a sharp Axe, and is resolved use it with Spirit against the common Enemy.

Gave a black Belt of 3 Rows.

Their Answer to

He then repeated what had been said on Col. Johnsons Belt to bind the Warriors, & exhorting them to st their Ears against bad Birds &c.

Brother! The Belts you have sent to our Warriors we received with the greatest Pleasure, and we have bound your Belt round us & give you the strongest Assurances that we will be firmly united. We return you many Thanks for your good Council & Advice accompanying it, and will not suffer any bad Birds to come into our Country to utter their artful Speeches & evil Councils, for we are well acquainted with the Deceit of the Rebels, whom all our Nations have resolved to consider and treat as Enemies.—

Gave a black Belt of 12 Rows with 5 white Bars across it.

Then spoke as follows in the Name of the Chief Warrior of the Huron Confederacy to the Chief Warriors of the Six Nations.

Brothers! We are made very happy at what has been done respecting the Road Belt, the Sharpening of the Axe, and Bending the Warriors and have now the fairest Prospects that our Affairs will go on prosperously as these Matters have been so well settled; and we assure you that we on our Parts shall punctually abide by them.

Gave a Bunch of 10 Strings of black Wampum.

Then gave 11 White Strings from the Sachems of the Huron Confederacy to those of the Six Nations, expressing the same as above.

Then repeated what had been said by the Six Nations from themselves and the seven Nations of Canada, desiring them to forward the News to the different Nations of their Confederacy and to acquaint them with all of their Transactions at their general Meeting. To which they answered,

Brothers!

We return you Thanks for what you have done, and shall as you desire, give very particular Accounts of what has been done, to the different Nations of our Confederacy and are happy that we can assure them that you are all as one Man, united, and determined to act with Vigor against the common Enemy. We on our Parts can answer for them that they will rejoice to hear it, as they are of one Mind with us.

Gave 2 white Belts, and a Bunch of black Wampum joined to them.

Kayashota

5. Kayashota then related that after the above Transactions the Deputies of the Six Nations gave a Belt to the Hurons in Confirmation of them, and desired that this Belt might be forwarded by the Shawanese to Cherokees of Chota, to be communicated to the southern Nations: But as the Shawanese were then out at War, the Hurons, who were just going after them, undertook to deliver it to them — He also mentioned, that the Hurons &c, after repeating every Thing that had been said to them, which they considered as calculated to rouse them, and make them act with Vigor, (as some Meſsage had been sent, implying that they were rather backward & dilatory) they thanked them very much, and told them that they were already roused and acting the same vigorous Part with themselves and in their Turn shook them, as by this means they would mutually encourage each other. — He likewise related that the Hurons acquainted them, that in Consequence of a Meſsage received from them, (the Six Nations,) they had sent to endeavour to open the Eyes of some of the Delawares of Muskingum, but that they would not listen to them; they therefore desired that the Six Nations themselves, who were always considered as the Head of the Delawares, would send to them for that Purpose: that they refused this, as they told the Hurons, the Delawares had struck them twice; but if they would come in, they would forgive what was past, and receive them again as Friends. The Hurons approved much of this, and acquainted them, that these Delawares had spoken to the Shawanese, telling them that they had taken the Rebels Axe, and found it to be sharp which they could show, and desired they would take and use it likewise: and to encourage them to it, gave them two Scalps of the Six Nation Indians which they had taken. These were given to the Hurons who gave them up to Kayashota & Party who now restores them to the Rest of the Six Nations.

He also produced a small Belt which the Six Nations had spoken on to their People bordering on the Ohio, whom they advised to remove and live with them. To which the others replied, that they could not do this at present, as they were just going out in a Body agst the Virginians, but that they would consider of it at their Return.

He then in Conclusion shook Colo. Johnson by the Hand; telling him that as they had thus performed the Business they went upon, according to their Promise, they hoped that what had been mentioned respecting some Movement in their Favor would take Place; that in Hopes of this they had hastened their Return, and that now they had the fullest Assurances that all Nations of Indians were united as one Man.

To all which Colo. Johnson replied,

Brothers! I have heard and attended to all you have told me, and am extremely pleased to find that you have so well performed the important Business that you went upon, and that your Confederates to the South & West have answered so satisfactorily. — I shall do every Thing in my Power for your Interest or Conveniency, but with Regard to

Expedi

7 Expeditions & Movements of Troops, that rests intirely with the General, who, I am confident, wishes to do every thing for you, and from every Appearance, purposes to do something in that Way in the Course of the Summer. — During your Absence we have had very favorable Accounts from New York and other Quarters, that the greatest Part of Carolina was reduced to Subjection, that a Number of Indians had joined the Kings Troops in that Quarter, and that the Rebels were in the greatest Distreſs. Their Allies the French & Spaniards have also suffered severely and lost many of their largest Veſsels particularly the latter who had eleven taken sunk at one Time, full of Men & Guns, besides a great Number of Rich Merchant Ships. — I have also sent out many good Parties from hence all of which have been succeſsful, and the same has been done from Canada, from whence Sir John Johnson lately went with 500 Soldiers and Indians to the Mohawk River, where he has burnt several Miles of a settled Country, a Number of the Inhabitants have joined him and we expect daily to hear of his Return with further Particulars. There are many other favorable Pieces of Intelligence which you will be informed of by my Friend Sayengaraghta and others who have heard them all. — We have likewise received several very favorable Accounts besides, but I confine myself to those that are well authenticated, as I would not wish in any Instance to prove mistaken, or to misinform you, and I always expect you will follow that Rule in your Proceedings with me. But from all Appearances I think there is now the greatest Likelihood that the

Pride of the Rebels will soon be effectually humbled, if the great Kings Friends continue to act with their former Unanimity & Resolution.

Then ordered them Pipes Tobacco & a Dram, and dismissed them with some Provisions & Liquor. —

Immediately after Saiyangaraghta spoke about the Rebel Indians confined in the Fort, who came as Envoys to the 6 Nations, and brought Schuylers Letter. He said that their Dimission had been put off from Time to Time, on Account of the different Parties that were out; but that he apprehended it could be of no Disadvantage now to let them return, but on the contrary might have a good Effect, by letting both their Nation & the Rebels know, that the Six Nations were determined to be true to their old Engagements, and revenge the Wrongs done them, and prevent them by this Means from hovering about, in Expectation of getting Intelligence. — Kayantaghté seconded him very warmly and said his Honor was particularly concerned, as he had assured them when they came to his Village, that if they went to Niagara, they would be allowed to return safe.

Col. Johnson told them that it had always been his Intention to comply with their frequent Requests upon this Subject as soon as it could be done without Danger, and that when it was known that Sir John was safe out of the Country, it should be finally considered. —

Extract from the Records, examined & compared.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Richd. Cartwright as Secy

[illegible]

[illegible] Filed

[illegible]

(Copy)

Quebec 18th June 1780

Sir

I [illegible] your Letter of the [illegible] Ultimo [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the Chiefs [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Vengeance [illegible] destruction of Sir John and his Detachment [illegible]

[illegible] upon them, which [illegible] would have been [illegible]

[illegible]

Committed upon those people [illegible] better [illegible]

[illegible] Detachments [illegible] the Detachment [illegible]

[illegible] upon them, their [illegible] would have been [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Captain [illegible] have [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] intended to [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] by the Cross [illegible] and the same

manner for the Detachment. The quantity of Money [illegible]

curtailed, the other [illegible] will be wanted. It is therefore a

[illegible] they should be forwarded [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] of

the Troops. If [illegible] employ any person in your power to deter

and

Captain Trent

Dispersed them, but such as shew remarkable alarm [illegible]

that alarm of difficult [illegible] effectually be considered [illegible]

the Method of Giving an early Signal would prevent the [illegible]

[illegible] be prevented by carrying Gunpowder [illegible]

[illegible] of Officers [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Officers [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Officers [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] shall be [illegible]

Lieut. Colonel Campbell commanded

[illegible] that Lieut. [illegible] Range of the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

acquainting them that all Bundles & Packages that
[illegible] directions shall be inspected.

Lieut Colonel Campbell [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] without any [illegible] Intentions, any [illegible]
very properly [illegible] & not keep them [illegible]
[illegible].

Your [illegible] of [illegible] is very
[illegible] from [illegible] having [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] the Transports [illegible] that Fleet was very judicious, and
[illegible]

[illegible] the Scene of their appearance upon that

Occasion [illegible] the Country [illegible]

to [illegible] Express [illegible]

Increase the disgust of the Common People, already [illegible] of the

Oppressions imposed on them.

I [illegible] have [illegible]

Information [illegible]

[illegible]

the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Loyalists who have [illegible]

to [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the Custom [illegible]

[illegible] these people [illegible]

any Individual [illegible]

[illegible] Service [illegible]

will be allowed them.

I am Sir &c.

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Copy of a Letter from His
Excelly Genl Haldimand to
Capt Alexr Fraser Dated
Quebec 18 Jany 1780

To   Entered 1780.
Colonel Johnson
18.th June —
Copy
Entd. fol. 62. —

(Copy)

Quebec 19th June 1780

Sir

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters of the 3d Ultimo, covering your Transactions with the Indians, a Return and Pay List of your Department, and Account of Expenses attending it, together with a Bill for the Amount (to which due Honor has been paid) and Intelligence received from the Colonies.

I have attentively perused the whole and have a pleasure in expressing the Satisfaction which the Steady Conduct of the Six Nations affords me, as well as my approbation of the Attention you have paid to the several Duties of your Department, since your Arrival at Niagara, from which, I should hope the most salutary Consequences will result, by preserving the attachment of the Indians, and at the same time, diminishing the vast Expence attending them.

The attention which has been paid to Oeconomy in the Consumption of Provisions, considering the amazing numbers you had to victual, gives me great Pleasure, the judicious measures of employing Parties continually upon the Frontiers contributed to that desireable End, as well as to the advancement of the Service, by driving in the Settlers, and keeping the Enemy in constant Alarm — I however hope the Indians will not establish this matter of necessity as a Custom, and expect to be hereafter fed in such numbers at Niagara, and I make no doubt, but you have used every means in your Power to discourage the Expectation of it, by setting to work such Parties of them, as could be spared, in Sowing and Planting Corn &c to ease this Burden. I was much disappointed in hearing from Colonel Bolton, that the Indian Corn procured from Detroit was not proper for seed; The small Quantity in my power to send from hence, will I fear, go but a short way — I wish the want of Axes and Hoes had been mentioned earlier, a Number of each are by this time ready to

Colonel Johnson

be sent to Montreal.. Settling the Indians comfortably, and in such a manner as to leſsen their dependance upon us for Provisions should be the first object of attention, for to say nothing of the Expence, the amazing difficulty and tediousneſs of the Transport, if not leſsened, has and always must prevent a poſsibility of undertaking any thing of Consequence in that Country — I shall give such directions as will secure a good Quantity of Seed for them, early enough to carry on their Settlements vigorously next season, and I shall be glad to be informed what kind will be most useful for them, and what they most stand in need of, without their being made Acquainted with my desire — These procured, they must be taught a perfect use of, and dependence on them for Subsistence, otherwise they will acquire a Habit of Idleneſs, and feel discontent, when the poſsibility of being supplied by Government must cease — My Letter of the 8th May will fully Answer that part of your Letter, desiring to know whether to lay in an Aſsortment of Goods from Canada or trust to Supplies at Niagara; The more I reflect upon the immense Treasure that has been expended in these purchases at the different Posts, the more I am shocked, and alarmed at the Consequences to the State — Every method to curtail this expence has been my Constant attention, and I am persuaded that of the several Officers concerned, but the insatiable desire of gain in the Trader forbids succeſs, while the goods are to be purchased upon the Spot. I am therefore come to a Resolution, at least to attempt, to reform this Evil, by sending to the different Posts, at the Expence of the Crown, the Quantities of Goods wanted, an Estimate of which, I have required by a Circular Letter abovementioned.

When I look over the List of Indian Officers and cast my Eye to the Sum Total of their Pay, far from wishing to leſsen the Rewards of their Services, I cannot but be discouraged from augmenting the Expence, by increasing their number; and as that Service has been hitherto carried on so well with those already employed, altho' some of them may be (as in other Lines) of very little Service, I must at present decline authorising new Appointments.

In Regard to your settling with me, some Warrants granted to You, by Brigadier General Maclean, I have not heard from Him upon the Subject, but as we communicate frequently, I shall readily receive from You

a

a Settlement of whatever Accounts may be between you, and transmit it to Him.

In the present State of Suspence, It is impossible for me to point out any particular Line of Service wherein to employ the Indians. I hope soon to be relieved from it, in the mean Time, I cannot wish better to the Service than to continue as you have hitherto employed them, the Warriors on variety of Scouts, calculated most to annoy and perplex the Enemy, and as many as can be persuaded to work, in the Cultivation of their Lands, and reistablishing their Settlements.

I cannot conclude without desiring that you will express my most perfect Satisfaction and highest approbation of the Manly Spirited Conduct manifested in Council by Sayenderachta and Arow, in their Speeches to the Oneida Deputation - assure Them and Joseph Brant of my Perfect Regards, and that they shall find me as firm in my Encouragement and support of them, as they have proved themselves steady in their Attachment to their King.

I am Sir &c

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

(Copy) To [illegible]
Colonel Guy Johnson
at Niagara —— 19th June

Detroit the 22d June 1780

Dear Sir

I am favoured with your letter of the 4th Inst. It gives me pleasure to hear that the Indians were assembling so fast, and in such numbers.

There certainly must be some mistake with regard to the Hurons — as I am confident there does not remain any either at Sandusky or here except the Aged, and part of them are gone to war, but the Hurons have taken a different route, towards Fort Pit which perhaps will be of as much, if not more Service to Captain Bird than if they had joined you.

The deputation from the Six nations arrived Safe here — Kayashota seeing that no General Council could be held on Account of the nations being gone to war, left the belts and

to Alexr. McKee Esqr. &c.

Speech with the Hurons, to deliver to the different Nations as Occasion Should Offer — It consists of 4 belts Containing 24 Thousand Wampum — requesting all the Indians to be firm to the General Alliance with the King of Great Britain. denouncing bad luck to such as shall separate therefrom.

Mr De Peyster and the Gentlemen of the Kings Regt Join in Compts to you and all friends —

I must request that you will remember me to my Indian Children and assure them they Shall find me a good friend, If they go on with the work in hand with becoming patience and fortitude. The Old Story of Humanity to prisoners, I am convinced you will loose no opport to inculcate. I am Dr Sir

Sincerely Your Humbl Obt

A. S. De Peyster

ARCHIVES CANADA

No. of Regiments.	by whome Commanded	No. of Classes in Eeach Regt.	No. of Men Delivered	Wanting to Compleat	No entered in Continental Service
	Coll: Abraham Cuyler's	27	27		
2	Do Peter Vroman	25		25	
3	Do Henry Quackenboss	25	7	18	
4	Do. John McCraw	36		36	
5	Do Lewis Van Woart	24	18	6	
6	Do Peter Yates				
7	Do Jacobus Schoonhoven	27	13	14	
8	Do Stephen J. Schuyler	20	7	13	
9	Do Phillip P. Schuyler	28	14	14	
10	Do Ab'm Wimple	29	19	10	
11	Do Kileon Van Ranslear	40	12	28	
	Total To be Delivered	281			
	Total Delivered		117		
	Totall Wanting to Comp't			164	

[No. 3009.]

The Oneidas Deliver a Speech Stamped With Fear and Incidentally "Stand in Great Need of a Little Powder."

Albany, June 24th 1780.

I have just received the enclosed Letter from Colonel Van Dyck with the speech of the Oneida Sechems. As they are of a public nature, I do myself the Honor to transmitt them to your Excellency and beg the favour after perusal you will please to direct them to be forwarded to General James Clinton.

I have reason to fear that if the Oneidas who are the only Indian nation in our interest in these parts don't soon receive some encouragement of protection, will leave their Castle, & move off to the Enemy.

Colonel Klock informs me that on Wednesday last a Women was killed, and her Husband taken prisoner by the Indians in the district of Stone Arabia in Tryon County. I am, most respectfully, your Excellencies most obedient servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

A Speech of the Oneida Chiefs to Colo. Van Dyck Delivered Sunday Evinging 18th June 1780.

Brother, Wee will now acquaint you with our Situation and request a judecious answer.

An Onondago Chief warrier called Wagondenaye, has Lately come from Niagara & as he passed thro Kanaghserage prevailed on several families to move off for Niagara. Since which the whole Town have left their habitations & gone to the Enemy, also two families of the Oneidas, with all the Onondages who had joined us since the Capture of their Village; this strange suddent movement has alarmd us very much; we are informed by those who had an interview with Wagendenaye that he said the whole Oneida nation should be taken prisoners in a short time, except shuch as emediately Repaired to Niagara or Oswego. Brother, we are in great Consternation. Reports from various other Quarters Conferm the above account; we scarcely know who to trust among us in this Criticle situation; yesterday the last of the Kanaghserages and Onondagos left us & say that our Town must be distroyed to open the road to the Mohawk River and after the Onidas are secured, the enemy Intend to lay wast the Mohawk River so far as Schenectady or Albany.

Brother, our women are much terrified with the view of their approaching ruin; they have Concluded to move down into the Country and seek a place of safety among the Inhabitants of the United States; many of the warriors approve of their Determination; so soon as the women and Children are secured the warriers will Return to your garrison & be at your Command.

Brother, we now request your best advice if you approve of our going down the Country you will appoint out some place and make provision accordingly; we are not able to defend ourselves at Oneida against the force we are sure will come against us; what can be done for us; pray advise Genl. Schuyler and the officer commanding at Albany of our Situation.

The warriers stand in great need of a little powder.

Brother, this all we have to say.

Grasshopper,
Aamko,
Kekeingo, Chiefs
Williamko,

The above is a trew translation by Saml. Kirkland.

A trew Coppy for Genl. Clinton at Albany.

[No. 3010.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis Supplements Indian Rumors.

Albany 24th June 1780.

Upon the Faith of your Excellency's Promise, I have ventured to detain some Hands employed in repairing my House who, have been ordered on militia Duty, and am now to request your Exemption for Alex'r Forsyth, Thos. Easterly & Richard Van Zandt, Carpenters and John Van Imborough Mason.

Two Oneidas came to Town the Day before Yesterday, who inform that the Onandagos Tuscaroras & four of the principal Oneida Families have gone to the Enemy. The Idea of a general Invasion of our Frontiers and the Investure of Fort Schuyler, founded on Information I am unacquainted with, appears universal amongst the Knowing ones. Should it be the Case, I hope to have the Pleasure of accompanying you on another expedition. Interim I am, your Excellency's most Obe't very hum. serv.

Mor'n Lewis.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

Niagara June 25th 1780.

Sir,

Since the Arrival of Kayashota and the other Indians from the South side of Lake Erie and Detroit, several other partys are come in, with whom I am so much occupied that it is not as yet in my power to transmit the papers I intended to your Excellency;— By one party that arrived last night, with a prisoner and four Scalps taken on the Mohock River I have advice that in consequence of what I mentioned in a former Letter, The Onondagas and Tuscaroras that had hitherto remained at Ganaghsaragy were finishing Canoes & preparing to set out to Joyn the Six Nations here, to the Amount of 170. in the Whole, with which they desired I might be made acquainted, and that the Oneidas proposed shortly to evacuate their Village, & go to their friends in Canada, it appearing that they are ashamed of their past conduct, and unwilling immediately to come to their Confederates here; I judged it neceſsary to give your Excellency the earliest intelligence of this, and shall act for the best on the arrival of the former whom I really expect,— The Withdrawing these Indians will no doubt be sensibly felt by the Rebels, particularly that of the Oneidas, who were for the most part their professed friends, and gave confidence to the frontier Inhabitants.— The Prisoner brought in, paints the wants of the people ſtrongly, he says that Sir John Johnson, was set out on his return for Canada, a few days before he was captivated, with many Friends to Government, so that I need not to enlarge on the rest of his information.—

I am

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca

I am now fitting out a party of 68 Indians, who will in a few days be followed by another large party. The party marched with Lieut Dachstedder to the Philadelphia Communication consists of 54, and I have Just heard from Capt John Johnston who has joyned Capt McDonald and Sixty Rangers with 101 Indians, & they were on the 18th near Cayuga, designed against a Settlement near the Mohock River. Three other Smaller partys are likewise out, and indeed none of them have been unsuccessfull from hence. — The Indians wish to Collect their people who were sent to Winter at Carleton Island & elsewhere, and they shew in general much zeal and readyness for the Service. —

I have the Honor to be, with great respect
Sir,
Your Excellencys most Obedient
and most Humble Servant.

G Johnson

British Museum

From H.D.   1/30.

Col. Johnson

25th June – Recd. 5th Augt

(Copy)

Quebec 30th June 1780

Sir/

I have received your Letters of the 13th & 18th Ultimo and of the 1st Instant covering Returns of Indians as distributed and of Prisoners taken and killed likewise informing me of your having drawn together a considerable Number of the Indians (scattered by the incursions of the Virginians) at Kadaragarras, a Measure I very much approve, and wish You to encourage as much as poſsible, as well on Acct. of its Vicinity to the Posts, hitherto unguarded on that Side as for its convenient Situation for the Indians obliged to retire from their Settlements — I hope You will find the Soil &c such as will induce them to set about establishing themselves in Force, by which means they will become formidable in that Quarter, as well as on the Genesee River — In the present disposition of the Virginians who seem determined to settle in the Hunting Ground of Kintuck, it will be particularly neceſsary to have considerable Scouts ready to attend to their Motions, if they should succeed, they may in time become very troublesome Neighbours, not only to the Indians but to the Posts — I am therefore glad to find that measures have been taken to prevent their settling which must in all Events be pursued with Vigour be their motives for retiring what they may. All good Subjects will be well received in Canada but not permitted to encroach upon the Indian Property. Your Presence at Kadaragaras will I hope facilitate those Operations, and at the same Time, the Settlement there, in my last Letter, I expreſsed a desire to be informed what Corn, Seeds &c would be most useful for the Settlers at Genesee; You will now be able to give me the same Information of Kadaragaras, saying what Number You think may be prevailed on to settle at each Place, what number of Families they will conveniently accomodate and what quantity of Flour will be wanted to make a Beginning, of which as much as poſsible must be procured in the Upper Country, with proper Aſsistance I think they ought next Year to reap a plentiful Harvest — I am particularly anxious for the succeſs of this Scheme as well for the future Happineſs of the Indians, as for the present Relief to Government with which I hope it will be attended for if it should fail, their distreſs for Provisions will

Colonel Johnson

be

(Copy)   Anandago July 3d 1780

Sir,

In my last to you from Conudargo I acquainted you that the Indians had changed their first design, and that they had determined to fall upon the Claisbarrach. — In this resolution they continued till the 21st, when I was informed, by David the Mohawk, that they intended to pay the Onidas a Visit; as they had great reason to believe many of them would come off: From the repeated Meſsages they had sent to that effect; and that they were resolved to burn the Village, and oblige those that declined profiting the opportunity, to retire into the interior parts of the Country, to be supported by the People whose cause they were engaged in. The Indians, after this Route was fixed upon, were very attentive, and alert, in keeping out Scouts. The 24th, we arrived at Old Onida undiscovered — I very soon perceived, that they had but little inclination to put their threats in execution. The Onida Chiefs were immediately called to a Council — a long Speech was delivered to them of their Situation, in case they continued blind to their own Interest, and not follow the advice which they had often received to come off and join the rest of the Six Nations &c. The Onidas observed, in the close of their answer, that their hearts felt very sore at the treatment they heard their Chiefs had received, at Niagara, in being detained there in captivity. The day following the Spruce-Carrier arrived with his party — Another Council was called, the result of which, I am happy to inform you, was much more favorable than the first — whether the Spruce-Carrier's Arguments were more forcible, or that they had deliberated on what had been told them the day before, I cannot pretend to say — They have, however, unanimously agreed to come off. They beg of me to inform you, that they are very sorry for their past behaviour; but that they will, for the future, behave like dutiful Children — They request that their Chiefs may be allowed to return, as they have very large Families, and no Men in them to take care of them, the instant they arrive, the whole of them are to set off.

We have brought off Eleven Warriors; I have not the least doubt from every appearance, but the whole will follow.

I used my utmost endeavours to get the Indians, after our return from Onida, to pursue our first design; as we had not Provision sufficient to bring us to Niagara, but enough to bring us to the place we intended going to. This I explained in the strongest manner I could, but to no purpose, for I could not get Twenty Indians to to go with us — we shall be very much distreſsed for Provision before we can poſsibly get a supply. I have had the Fever and Ague these Ten days past, to an immoderate degree, and the Rheumatism in my neck — the Ague is just going to attack me, so that I must refer you to Lieut. Bradt for particulars.

I have the Honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant

Lt. Col. Bolton. (Signed) John McDonell

British Museum

Copy of a Letter from Capt.
McDonnell to Lt. Col. Bolton,
dated at Anandaga July
1st. 1780

(Copy) 0v
To
Colonel Johnson
at Niagara — 35^{29} June

Niagara July 2d. 1780.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency with the arrival of the Indians from Ganaghsaragy, with some of their Neighbours the Oneidas, ammounting to 294 in the whole, They say that in consequence of my conversation with an Indian called Bradleys Brother and some others last Winter, they had determined to take the first opportunity of coming off, and of offering their Services which their situation had before prevented them from doing, and that they expect the whole of the Oneidas will shortly follow their example, they are to meet me in form the day after tomorrow when I shall speak to them in a proper manner, by shewing them that it is not meer words that can attone for their past conduct, and I have no doubt of rendering them more usefull to us than they have ever been to the Rebells; - In my last I made a mistake as to their numbers, which I under-rated, that is now corrected. —

Herewith is transmitted a Copy of the Speeches delivered by the Indians to Kayashota who went with my belts, and proceedings throughout the Confederacy, from which it will appear that they are highly pleased and encouraged by that timely Embassy In my last I made mention of a party of 68. preparing for War I since encreased it to 95. who marched under the Care of Capt Nelles on the 28th. ult. for the Mohock River and I expect daily to hear from Capt Johnston who has 101 Indians, & Joyned Capt McDonald with Sixty Rangers. —

I now likewise inclose a Return of Indian partys of my Department, and the Killed & Prisoners by them, to the 11th. of last Month, which will shew that they have not been idle even in the Worst weather, and I have ten partys yet out from

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca.

whom there are not any advices hitherto; They not only alarm but distreſs the frontiers, and I find it neceſsary to encourage them, and keep them occupied, as they begin to be sollicitous on the Old Subject of Military movements, Posts &ca which I omit no opportunity of speaking upon in the manner your Excellency directed; using my utmost endeavors to make them easy thereon, untill the State of Affairs will admit of it.—

Since Writing the foregoing I have had an Interview with these Indians preparatory to the public one, they determine on Shewing their Sorrow for their past Conduct and to endeavor to Efface it by Actions, I shall avail myself of their disposition and I believe render them usefull.— Capt Shenop the Nanticoke Chief from whom I heard a few days Since is this Moment arrived with a prisoner and a Scalp taken below Shamokin and a paper signed Jas. Allison with 14 others who intend to come away to this place shortly but say nothing farther than that it was reported that 600 Men were shortly to come to the Pensilvania frontier.— The Indians settled at Kadaragaras and Jadaghque are well Situated for distreſsing that quarter and gaining intelligence, and another Strong party will soon go out from hence,— the greatest want will be on the Score of Corn, and I have only to regret that a Sufficiency could not arrive in time for the planting Season, however those who were not too late will do tolerably well, and on that and all other matters I shall use my best endeavors for his Majestys Service, trusting in your Excellencys favor, by a particular attention to your Commands.—

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your Excellencys most humble
and most obedient Servant,

G Johnson

I have also inclosed a Return
of the disaffected Indians
Just arrived.—

From 15 1780
Colonel Guy Johnson
the 2d July Recd 17th by
Major Lernoult, with
Sundry Returns &c

Niagara July 3d. 1780.

Sir,

Agreable to your Excellencys commands signified in your last dispatch, I inclose an Estimate of the most material Articles necessary for a Years Supply of my Department, Framed on a Supposition of the Existence of the same Wants, and of the Necessity of the same attention for that period which has been for some Years paid to them;

In a former Letter I observed that beside the encrease of their ordinary expences and consumption, the desires of the Indians had been extended to many Articles, and some of them expensive ones, which they had not formerly received or expected; this I ascribed to their present importance, and the desire of securing their Affections, as well as to the frequent necessity there was for buying general Assortments, the Merchants not chusing here, to sell particular articles alledging it would injure their Cargo's, and such new Articles were necessarily given to the Indians, being purchased with the rest. Whether I am right in my Conjectures or not, this much is certain that many of the Indians will no longer wear Tinsel Lace and are become Good Judges of Gold & Silver, That they frequently demand & have received, Wine, Tea, Coffee, Candles, & many such Articles, and that they are particularly nice in the Choice of the finest Black and other Cloth for Blankets and the best Linnen & Cambric, with other things needless to Enumerate,— I have therefore in the estimate pointed out some things that shou'd be of two, or more different qualities, and indeed it is but reasonable that some Indians of Superior Interest & utility shou'd have superior marks of favor, so far as it may be done without creating Jealousy.—

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

Multiplicity

Niagara July 2d 1780

Sir

I have received your Excellency's favor of the 6th of May, and also a Letter from Captain Mathews of the 25th, to both of which I shall pay the utmost attention as far as it lies in my power — Since I wrote to your Excellency last, we have not received any Intelligence of much Consequence, notwithstanding Parties of Indians are frequently going out, and others returning with Prisoners, who either are ignorant of what is doing even in their own Neighbourhood; or are unwilling to divulge what they know — Since Captain McDonalds departure, a strong Party set off for the Mohawk River, near one hundred Indians, and at this time several more are out, but as Colonel Johnson will inform your Excellency of the Particulars by this Opportunity, I beg leave to refer you to his Letter — I have lately received an Express from Major De Peyster with Copies of two letters from Captain Bird and Mr McKee, which I have the honor to enclose, & hope soon it will be in my power to send you some favourable Accounts from the Ohio, having a high opinion of Captain Birds activity, and Zeal for

His Majesty's Service. Mr. McKee I must also beg leave to mention to your Excellency as a diligent Officer, and one who has upon seve Occasions exerted himself to the utmost during the present Troubles.

Major Lernoult, who has been extremely anxious for some time to get down to Quebec, I believe, will embark to [illegible] on board the Ontario, I am only concerned he sets out upon such a Journey quite so well as I could wish, he will inform your Excellency of any thing concerning the upper Posts.

I am with the greatest Respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Obliged Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P.S.
I have given Major Lernoult a Memorandum concerning the [illegible] already settled at this Post, which I have requested he would Inform yr. Excellency &c.

Inclosed you have an Acct. of a Mr. Harpurs behaviour to the Loyalists, his Brother to Mr. Moore, and was a Captain in the Rebel Militia, I have sent him Prisoner to Montreal.

His Excellency General Haldimand

July 3. Colonel Johnson has just now informed me, that a Party of Onondagoes, Tuscaroras and some Oneidas with their Families, and who were all in the Rebel Interest, are arrived at Johnson's Creek about four miles from this Post, they amount to 240 men, Women, and Children. It is also reported by Joseph, that the Oneidas will join the first favourable Opportunity

From L 1780

Lieut. Col. Bolton of the
2d July Recd 17th by Major
Lernoult with Sundry
enclosures

(Copy)

June the 3^{d}. — a days march from the Ohio

Sir,

My conjectures, respecting the Hurons being turn'd by the Wakatamike Indians, are not true — so far from it, they did all in their power to persuade them to join us, which the Hurons refused — they then told them it was not proper they should go forward in small parties, and gave them scalps, which is their fashion of telling them to wait — The Hurons glad of the opportunity, returned — but have, tho' repeatedly invited, refused to join the Confederacy — Cap^{t}. M^{c}Kee desires his compliments, gives me the above information —

The Prisoners who were sent off by the Hurons, or rather by Zeans with their silent consent, arrived some time ago at the Falls, with intelligence of our approach: they sent off to Col. Clark to return immediately — He will not be able to join the Rebels aſsembling at the Falls, before the 15th. of this month — He has certainly 200 Soldiers with him.

By what we can learn, they are gathering as many as poſsible at the Falls to meet us; but there is much Division among them.

I went to Cap^{t}. M^{c}Kee, and told him, I could wish he would attempt to bias the Indians as far as proper: to proceed immediately to the Falls — I stated my reasons as follows —

It is poſsible before Col. Clarke's arrival, they may raise 800 men — probably they may raise 600 — certain they can raise 400 ——

It is also poſsible, we may beat 800 — probable we can beat 600 — certain we can beat 400 —

Col. Clarke's arrival will add considerably to their numbers, and to their confidence: Therefore the Rebels should be attacked before his arrival — now it is poſsible he may return by the 14th — probable by the 22d. — certain by the 1st of July —

'Tis poſsible for us to get to the Falls by the 10th of this month — certain by the 14th — The Indians will have their full Spirits — the Ammunition & every thing plenty, and in the State we could wish it — After taking the Falls, the Country on our return, will be submiſsive, and in a manner subdued: but if we attack the nearer Forts first as we advance, we shall have continual Desertion of Indians — the Ammunition wasted or expended, and our People far from fresh — our difficulties will increase as we advance, and Col. Clarke will be at the Falls with all his People collected to fight us at the Close.

I have another reason for attacking the Falls — should we succeed, we can Ambuscade Mr. Clarke as he returns.

Capt. McKee thinks my reasons just — if this plan is not followed, it will be owing to the Indians, who may adopt others — The next time I shall have the pleasure of writing to you, I hope will be to write you of some little succeſs —

I am, Sir, with respect
Your most Obedt. Servant
(Signed) Henry Bird

Major De Peyster.

Major De Peyster begs to remark, that the Hurons have taken the Rout towards Fort Pitt; will, in all probability, answer a good end.

Copy

Sir,

I had the Honor of receiving your favour of the 8th May the 31st ulto, at which time I joined Capt. Bird near the Forks of the Miamis, being the place appointed by the Indians for this purpose, and the third day after his arrival there. The next day arrived about 300 Indians which, with those from the Lakes, makes us near 400 strong — the Six Nations, with a large band of Shawanese upon the way to join us, computed to 200 more, will make our Party about 600 Indians, besides Capt. Bird's Detachment; tho' we shall not be able to collect all our Force, till after our arrival at the Ohio, which will be to morrow, where it is thought most expedient to wait for those in our Rear, as we shall have then an opportunity, to intercept any Boats, that may be paſsing down the River.

No Satisfactory answer has been had from the Hurons, notwithstanding three several Meſsages has been sent to them, to expedite their joining us. About the time we were upon the way out, I am informed, that a small Party of them was stop'd by ye Wakitumikée Indians from going to War, untill their Fathers arrival with his Canon, in order to prevent their dispersing themselves into small Parties, but to unite and join them in a Body in this enterprize: but it seems they have reported that it was intended to stop them intirely from going to War, which those Indians declare was far from their design, having on the contrary called upon them three several times since, for their aſsistance in the present undertaking.

We were overtaken the 1st inst. by Meſsengers from a Deputation of Six Nation Chiefs arrived at the Huron Village whose busineſs is to call me and the Chiefs of those Nations to council proposed to be held at Detroit, in answer to which we have told them, that as we were now upon the way against the Enemy they must wait the event of the present enterprize — and a Message at same time is sent to the Hurons to inform th if they are disposed to join in it, they had still time to overtake us.

I am, Sir, with great respect
Your most Obedient and
very humble Servant

June 4th 1780

(Signed) A McKee

Major DePeyster.

Copy of a Letter from Capt.
Bird to Major DePeyster
dated 3d June 1780 —.
And
Copy of a Letter from Capt.
McKee to Major DePeyster
dated June the 4th 1780 —
(Inclosed) in Lt. Col. Bolton's
Letter of the 2d July by Major
[illegible]

questing an Exemption for some Persons detained in your Service, who you are apprehensive may be punished by Court Martial. I recollect the Conversation I had with you on this Subject when at Albany, & that I promised you an Exemption for two or three Persons while actually employed by you, which I shoud have certainly granted had I been furnished with their names as I conceive it an Indulgence due to a public Officer especially when it is to enable him to reside with Conveniency at the Place most suitable to the public Business. The Want of the Names has prevented your receiv'g the Exemptions. You will please to shew this Letter to Genl. Ten Broeck & Colo. Cuyler who will readily excuse from Tryal or remit the Punishment of the Persons that you have detained. I am sorry that the critical Situation of the Frontiers arising from a Deficiency in the Levies, as well as the Spirit of Jealousy that too generally prevails among the Militia, will prevent in future this trifling Indulgence which I shoud be happy for your sake in continuing. I am

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Morgan Lewis.]

[No. 3036.]

Planning to Wean the Oneidas from the American Cause.

Fort Schuyler, July 3d 1780.

D'r Sir, In my last you have been informed that the Oneidas have been surrounded by a party of the Enemy, consisting of about 180 Indians & Tories, 70 of the latter commanded by one McDonald, since which the Sachems have waited on me from them and various others. I have been able to gain this farther Intelligence—That Schohary was confesedly their object when they left Niagara, but meeting a party of the Kanasaragas at

Cayuga, were induced to come by Oneida; the Kanasaragas told them, (as they have said) that their whole Village had gone off with some of the Oneidas, bound for Niagara & they were sure many more of the Oneidas might be prevailed upon to quit their Country & join the King if proper Measures were taken with them; Accordingly, upon their arrival made use of many Specius Arguments with the Sachems, to draw off the whole Oneida Nation. The head Warriors utterly rejected their Request of an Interview, & refused any of them Admittance into their Fort; indeed, the Main Body of the Enemy did not come within two Miles of the Fort. Three of the Sachems were several young warriors were two Days with them in Council, the Result of which appears to be this; That the Oneidas will not give a decisive Answer to their Proposals of removing, till Schonendo & Peter who are confined at Niagara shall be delivered up to them, to which the Senecas & Mohawks replied, that upon their Return to Niagara they should be immediately released from their Confinement & brought down. That they might expect to see them within twenty two or three Days, eight of which are now relapsed. That a very large Body would accompany them from Niagara when they hoped the Six Nations would be once more united. Another Chief of them declared farther in his Speech & told the Grashopper, an Oneida Chief, that they should not taste of their Corn Fields this year unless they complied with their Proposals.

The Oneidas were charged by the Senecas of being too officious, & making Report to the Americans of every Tract they discover and forbid the practice in future. The Oneidas replied to this, that the Woods were theirs, and had a Right to range where they pleased and that Necessity oblidged their young Men to hunt and fish for Subsistance; that it was very hard indeed; that if while their young Men were pursuing a Deer or cetching a Fish, they must be charged with hunting after the Tracts of them.

The Oneidas requested the Head Warrior of the Party to return without committing any Hostilities on the Mohawks River. They accordingly promised to return, & were followed by several of the Oneidas, when they set out as far as Kanaghsaraga to watch their motion; some supposed they would turn their Course from Onondaga & take the Rout to Schohary. Eight of the Oneidas & one Tuscorora are gone off with them.

Two Indians of the Enemy's party related to some of the Oneidas, were admitted into the Fort & told some of their intimate Friends that Schonondo & Peter would never be released & delivered up to them but on this Condition that the Oneidas will join the Six Nations. The Plan laid at Niagara to bring this about was as follows: upon Return of this Party, a large Body of both English & Indians are to come down, the English to lay Seige to Fort Schuyler, the Indians in the mean Time to surround Oneida, send in one of the Prisoners, retain the other till they should comply; others again said, that their comeing down within Twenty Days depended upon the Success of a certain Indian Chief, meet with in procuring some of the western Tribes of Indians, whither he was gone & also Joseph Brandt into Canada upon the Same Arrand. These accounts are generally believed among the Oneidas. You will, therefore, judge of them as you please. I would have inclosed you the Returns &c. but I conceive it improper at present. I must only request, that a timely supply of Provisions may be sent off without Delay, also Rum & a few Camp Kettls which we want much. Tobacco is an article our Men are in great want of. I must, therefore, give it as my earnest Request, that the Paymaster be ordered to purchase a Hogshead and forward it up without Delay; this is desired by all the Men, let the Price be what it will.

As you are well acquainted with the Strength of the Garrison at present, I must, therefore, request if your Regt. is not to be relieved, that a Supply of Men may be sent me from the Levies on the River or such other as you may think proper. Those essential Points I think ought not to be delayed.

I received yours of the 26th June last, by the Indian & you may depend every Precausion shall be observed by, Sir, your humble Serv't Cor's Van Dyck.*

Collo. Van Schaick.

[No. 3037.]

The Exposed Frontier.

Saraghtoga 3d July 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency's orders arived in our District yesterday and this day had a general meeting upon the same; we are chearfully willing to conform with your Excellency's orders for the raising the men as an additional support to our frontier guards and highly approve of the measure as a wise and judicious appointment. But, in the mean time, it is with the greatest concern that we find in the arrangement to be made by the officers to be appointed by your Excellency, are to releive the Levies now raised and stationed on our Frontieers as a guard, there are many alarming circumstances which excites us to write this Letter to your Excellency, to have the men already raised to be continued among us; and from your Excellency's

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*See page 921.

Proceedings at Two meetings with the Indians of Ganaghsaragy, Oneidas &ca from the Rebel Frontier held before Col.l Guy Johnson Superint.t &ca at Niagara in July 1780.

Monday July 3.d The before mentioned Indians amounting to Two Hundred and ninety four, assembled at Colonel Johnson's Quarters.— Present Col.l Guy Johnson. M.r Dease, and other Officers of the Department, being all seated Shenghnagiwat as Speaker, performed the Ceremony of condolence with three Strings of Wampum, and began to address Col.l Johnson by express.g much Satisfaction at meeting him, said they hoped he would pity, & excuse them for having been so ignorant and foolish as to be persuaded, & misguided by a Contemptible People, who by their Artifice had induced them, to swerve from their Engagements both to him and the King.—

Col.l Johnson replied,

I am glad to see that you have at last found your way to this Fire place, from which you have been so long estranged. I was sorry to find on my return that you had acted a part so opposite to the rest of the Confederacy, and so inconsistent with your professions to me, and your Engagements to the British Government more especially as I had always a great regard for you.— What think you would your old Friend the late Sir William Johnson have said to you on this occasion: to whom you were always carrying complaints of the encroachm-ents made on your Lands, & Frauds committed by those very people to whom you have been since so much attached, and for whose sakes you forgot that your Engagements from the first Settlement of the country were made with the Kings Officers and not with the Colonists — But I forbear to say much on this head, as I am inclined to think that you are now sensible of your misconduct which I impute in some measure to your weakneſs and folly for you certainly must have been blind, to suffer yourselves to be deceived by so contemptible a set of people at the same time I — must tell you it will require much good conduct on your part to persuade the public into a belief of your Reformation: — I well know how the Rebels (under all their distreſses) would act towards any Indians in your situation but the Great King is as much Distinguished for his clemency and forgiveneſs as for his power and resentment, and his Officers scorn to insult those who repent and submit, neither is it in my inclination ever to do so. I only tell you honestly that you owe your reception to our Humanity, but that you must merit it by your Conduct; words will do no longer, tis actions must prove your Sincerity - and I hope you have had sense enough to consider this and come prepared to act such a part as will enable me once more to give you my hand freely and to use you as I have done the faithful

Six

BRITISH MUSEUM

Six Nations.- To this after a Little pause Shenghnagume Answered-

Brother Gorah Uraghquadirha,

We thank you from our hearts for your wise and good words. we know them to be true, we acknowledg all you say. and we are resolved; Brother, you have spoke rightly to us. but we have been foolish, not guilty. your forme Message and your words now, have opened our Eyes it is as a Light that has suddenly broke out of the ground, and ma every thing clear to us. and we shall act accordingly. We embrace your words. it is our intention we wish to shew ourselves immediately. we wish to satisfy you, and our, - Brothers of the Confederacy we will do it. & we hope you'le put us to the Tryal immediately. We shall put up Hutts - where you have directed, and the Warriors will shew you our Sincerity.-

Col. Johnson then told them that he would put off the return of the Ceremonieal of Condolence to the next meeting of which he would advise them, and that he wished to see them make good their words.-

At a meeting on Thursday the 6th.-

Coll. Guy Johnson Superint.
Mr. Dease Deputy Agent
Captain Mompesson 8th Reg.
Captain Brant —
Captain Powell —
Lieutenant Hillyer

Present

Lieut. Lottridge
Lieut. Clement
Lieut. Bt. Johnston
Lieut. Wm. Johnston
Lieut. Wilkinson Adjt.
Lewis Clement
Nichs. Storms } Interprs.

After all were assembled and the usual Compliments -

made Shenghnagenrat began to repeat what Colo. Johnson had before said, adding that he had made them thoroughly Convinced of their folly, that his words were as a Light suddenly breaking out of the Earth, and shewing them the right road. Then expressing much sorrow for their foolishness in suffering themselves to be deluded by a base People but that they used so many artifices and their People lived so near to the Rebels that they were constrained to a compliance and that quite contrary to their inclinations but that they hoped their misconduct would soon be forgotten as they meant to lay hold on the King's axe which Colo. Johnson had given out being informed of its sharpness, and that they were in reality determined to act with vigor against the Common Enemy that they would soon shew by their Actions and not by words that they are sincerely attached to the British Government.—

Gave a white Belt of eight Rows, with Eight Squares then proceeded.—

Brother,

In consequence of our misconduct of which we heartily repent and are sorry for, we humbly hope to be pardoned, as we acknowledge our blindness, and weakness in acting so contrary to what we intended; but assure you that we shall in future exert ourselves as Zealous — Partisans to the Great King and his cause, and we intreat you to release our People that are in Confinement, as their families are all present here, making no doubt of their readiness to follow our Example and your advice.— Gave a white Belt of eight Rows, with three Barrs across it.—

Brother,

This Belt we received in your name last Spring the purport of which was to desire that we would come off before it was too late and that we might depend upon being protected and kindly treated if we repented sincerely and would comply in coming away by the first conveniency to which we chearfully agreed having meditated upon it for some time and are exceeding glad that we did so as we are sensible that our treatment and reception is beyond what we might have expected.—

Returned Col. Johnson's small white Belt of Six Rows, with three Black Squares.—

Coll. Johnson replied,

That he had hearkened to their Speech hoped it was sincere, and not from the lips wishing they might merit the regard, and attention of both him and the Public through their unwearied zeal, fidelity, and attachment in exerting themselves to the utmost of their power, and that by deeds instead of words. He then recapitulated the many instances of fraud, and Artifice of which they formerly complained those very people were guilty to whom they afterwards weakly attached themselves, repeated the Original Engagements between the Crown, and the Indian Confederacy, & concluded with telling them that they must not think the services of a few people, was a material Object to the Crown, that his advice was given with a view vices for themselves, as their services however slender might be considered as a proof, and indeed was the only proof they cou'd give of their reformation, That a party was now preparing and he was inclined to accept of their offer. accordingly about seventy of their Warriors went out, with an Indian party in a few days.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Proceedings at two meet-
with the Indians of [illegible]
saragy, Oneidas &c the [illegible]
Rebel Frontier held before
Colo. Guy Johnson in July 1780.

Return of a Party of Indians, who are gone to War, under the Command of Capt. Joseph Brant, Niagara July 11th 178

Officers Names

Capt. Joseph Brant
Lieut. Joseph Clement

Indians lately disaffected Included

	No.
Onandagas & Ganaghsaragys	25
Oneidas	4
Oneidas & Tuscaroras of Ganaghsaragy	30
Total	59

Nations	Captain	Lieutenant	Volunteers	Warriors	Total
Mohawks	1	1	12	10	24
Onandagoes	.	.	.	55	55
Senecas	.	.	.	46	46
Cayougas	.	.	.	52	52
Oneidas	.	.	.	4	4
Tuscaroras	.	.	.	35	35
Ganaghsaragys	.	.	.	30	30
Onoghquagys	.	.	.	34	34
Delawars. Chughnut	.	.	.	21	21
Mohiccons	.	.	.	8	8
Esopus	.	.	.	5	5
Total	1	1	12	300	314

NB. David's Party, consisting of 30 Warriors, are ready to follow, but not included above.

(Signed)
Guy Johnson Col. of
the Six Nations & Confederates,
Superintend.t &c.

(Copy) N^{o}. V.

Return of a Party of
Indians, who are gone to
War, under the Command
of Cap^{t}. Brant — —
Niagara July 11th. 1780

[illegible] July [illegible] 9

Dear Sir

I am commanded by His Excellency Gen[illegible] Haldimand to [illegible] your [illegible] Letter of the [illegible] [illegible] respecting the [illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible] and the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and Navy at Carleton Island [illegible] [illegible] the supply of Fresh Meat with [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Carleton Island furnished with a Supply of fresh Meat in the Course of this Winter, if it can be done upon Reasonable Terms, of which there is no forming a Judgement from the Report made [illegible] of the [illegible] means of transporting and quartering the Cattle, [illegible] being made of the Expence [illegible] to the [illegible], indeed there is a difficulty in it as [illegible] has been made; It would however be proper that the Person should state to you the Price [illegible] he would undertake whether by allowing a certain quantity of fresh Meat in lieu of Salt, or by being allowed so much [illegible] before a Board of Officers and Accounts of the Expence [illegible] of the Troops [illegible] the Cattle and provide Forage for them; His Excellency has however made these being [illegible], but He is entirely of your Opinion in regard to the [illegible] being Lost or Tacked by Indians [illegible] to provide for such besides that it will naturally render those who are employed less careful. Losses of this kind are less likely to happen in a confined Situation, than upon a Continent, the Cattle being less able to stray, and the [illegible] subject to Plunder.

His Excellency has in view to reinforce Your Garrison in Summer Time, & is satisfied

Captain Alexr Fraser

[illegible] Troops You have will be employed to the best ad-
tage as well in forwarding the Works as in defence of the Plan
No Representation hath been made con
[illegible] Detention of the [illegible] Men at Cockspur Island [illegible]
[illegible] Your [illegible] be [illegible] by His Excellency [illegible]
[illegible]
His Excellency being determined to [illegible]
[illegible] the Cultivation
[illegible] demanded the [illegible]
[illegible] for the Conveniency of the Troops [illegible]
[illegible] You will confer with [illegible] Colonel [illegible] upon the
[illegible] Cockspur Island [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] from the General to Colonel
[illegible] a Copy as a
guide to you [illegible] and Completion of the
[illegible] His Excellency [illegible] that the Island
[illegible] Quantity of [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] of Government [illegible]
Expence [illegible] His Excellency therefore [illegible]
[illegible] the Publick Stock [illegible]
[illegible] Proper Persons to calculate an
[illegible] of Plans [illegible]
[illegible]

Settles [illegible] His Excellency understands that the Island

with [illegible] the Quantity of [illegible]

for this Station [illegible] it will be necessary to [illegible]

[illegible] Government the

Expence [illegible] His Excellency therefore desires y

with [illegible] as you can [illegible] the Public Stocks and

the [illegible] Proper Persons to calculate an

[illegible] Expence of [illegible] of Water in lieu of Flour, in

occasionally to reduce the Ration of the latter, to save the

Transport & Expence of Conveyance. But I am aware that

[illegible] His Excellency

Disposed [illegible] for the Island for Set

New Settlers of Norfolk [illegible]

[illegible] the Necessary

[illegible] His Excellency

be able to [illegible] the Autumn

[illegible] a Copy of a Letter

to [illegible] His Excellency in Consequence of

[illegible] was dispatched from

[illegible] your [illegible]

[illegible] Detachment

of your Government [illegible] that Letter never reach

you I therefore send you a Copy of the whole of it.

[illegible] the Ones [illegible] at last

[illegible] of their Duty [illegible] to appear bef

their Confederate Nations, had determined to come to Canada
His Excellency desiring You will recommend to them, in endeavoring
convince him of the Sincerity of their Professions, to strike some Stroke
that will smooth their Way to a Reconcilement

I am &c. &c.
(Sign'd) R. Mathews

Copy

Quebec 13th July 1780

Sir

I have to acknowledge the Favor of Your Letter of the 9th Instant, and having had the Honor of Laying it before His Excellency the Commander in Chief, I am to Signify to You his Pleasure thereon — His Excellency is extremely Surprized at the Proposal Made by the Indians, particularly the Mohawks, who have hitherto distinguished themselves for good Order and punctual attention to What has been Recommended by those appointed, as well to Direct their Conduct in War, as to administer to their Wants, and Wishes; and Wonders what Could have induced them to a Presumption of dictating to him, by planing and Proposing to execute Measures without Controle, and Refusing to act with His Officers who are appointed and Supported at a vast Expence on purpose to go to War with them, and to afford them assistance upon every Occasion — His Excellency therefore Desires You will acquaint them that he is Above Suspecting the Warriors he Employs and Will Never send Spies Merely to Watch their Conduct, if they do not Chuse to accompany his Officers to War, he Concludes they are No Longer in need of their assistance, and Will therefore recall them from their Villages and Care of them — All Indians Who are Desirous to Continue the Merit they have hitherto acquired by an unshaken attachment to their King, will act as Warriors ought to do, Where and When, and under the Direction of such Officers as he shall see fit to Employ — These are the

Warriors

Lieut. Col. Campbell

Warriors Who will be distinguished by his Countenance Favor and Protection — Those Who have other Views, he has no Service for. —

I am &c

(Signed) Robt. Mathews

Copy 1780

To Lieut. Col. Campbell
of the 13th July. —

Brothers

I have communicated your Letter to His Excell.^cy General Haldimand ~~and~~ with Regard to your ~~[illegible]~~ having united yourselves with the Seven Nations of Canada His Excellency upon reflecting there upon told me to acquaint you that this Measure of yours was rather a Surprize upon him that a Nation wch for Centuries past had supported the Character of the Senior & most respectable of the antient & once so famous Confederacy of the five united Nations, should now so far forget themselves as to come in the youngest of those Nations who some time ago emigrated and deserted the Confederacy. His Excellency is sure it cannot be with the Consent and Satisfaction of the rest of their Tribes at Niagara as well as that of the other Nations of the Confederacy That it would be much more consistent that instead of any of the 6 Nations joining ~~them~~ [illegible] they should re unite & incorporate with their former Confederacy (& take Example of your Constancy & Fidelity) again; His Excelle.cy at same time is perfectly sensible of your Zeal for His Majestys service & is not doubtfull but ~~they~~ you will not long hence be reinstated ~~of~~ in the Native Country of ~~their~~ your Ancestors and flourish more under the King your Fathers favor & Protection more than ever ~~they~~ you did heretofore..

His Excell.cy further observes that ~~[illegible]~~ you will in the mean while prepared content yourselves till he may have Occasion for your Services depending greatly on your Readiness & Fidelity.

His Excell.cy likewise desires me to acquaint you that he much wishes you would reunite your selves to your Station at Niagara or Carleton Isl.d it being the desire of them as well as the Superintend.t &c.

BRITISH MUSEUM

from 1780
Cold. Claus to the
Mohawks 13th. July

Niagara July the 12th 1780

Sir

I have the honor to enclose your Excellency Copies of Letters received from Major De Peyster, [illegible] and Lieutenant Furis with some intercepted papers taken on the Falls of the Ohio, which will inform you of all the Intelligence we have lately received here. Joseph Brant left this Post a few days ago with a Strong Party of Warriors, and I believe intends to pay a visit to the Mohawk river; Sayengaraghta will set off to morrow with an other Party, but Colonel Johnson will write to your Excellency more fully concerning Indian Affairs either by this Opportunity or the next Vessel that Sails. 294 Indians who were deceived in the Rebel Interest arrived here a few days ago, and many more are expected if we can credit the Reports brought in by the Mohawks. Lieut. Furis has sent me two Rebel News papers, which I take the Liberty to enclose & am with the Greatest Respect

Your Excellency's
Most Obliged
Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P.S.
I have this moment received your Excellency's favour of the 18 June and shall write to the Major to send Thos. Taylor of the 47th down to Quebec

His Excellency General Haldimand —

BRITISH MUSEUM

From [illegible] . 1780
Lieut. Col. Balfour, of the
15th July – Recd. 26th –
No. 1

Copy) 1780

To Col: Guy Johnson

of the 2d. July 1780

Niagara 25th. July 1780.—

Sir,

It was not in my power by the last opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys Letter of the 19th. Ulto. for which I beg leave to offer my best thanks, particularly for the favorable reception which my Reports, proceedings and Conduct has been honored with.—

I have now the Honor to inclose the principal part of my Transactions with the Indians from the Rebel frontier who arrived here the 2d. inst., and with a few that came in since ammount to 330 Souls, Those that remain at the next Village to Fort Stanwix are but few, and will I believe soon follow the example of the rest.—

I likewise inclose an Abstract Return of the Indians & Officers of my Department, lately marched and now on Actual Service Ammounting to 836 Indians, and two good partys are besides preparing which will set out tomorrow, a Number far exceeding what has been known to be out at one time, and principally owing to the Success which attended my former partys, and which has excited a Spirit of emulation among them;— I have Just now heard that part of Capt. Nellis's party are on their way back with Six Prisoners & Scalps & some Horses, brought from the German flats where they destroyed much Grain & Cattle & burnt several Houses. and some of the Smaller partys who were returning with prisoners &ca., have sent them forward to this place, & turned back with partys they met going to War, contrary to their usual practise.— Near three fourths of the Warriors are now on Service, & the remainder at their planting Grounds &ca. The Number of

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca.

those gone against the Rebel frontiers within these 15 days past is 543 of which Capt Brant has the greatest part but they will divide into smaller bodys as they approach the Settlements, and certainly so large a Number as is now out, if Judiciously dispersed along the frontiers & following the directions they have received must keep the Rebels in continual alarm and greatly heighten their distresses, without Sullying the Reputation of Government by the commission of Acts of Cruelty, as the Rebels were used to affirm.-

From the State I have given, your Excellency will perceive that I can have very few Warriors remaining here, and therefore I shall not incourage partys till the return of some of those who are out, least some Operation might be undertaken requiring their attendance.—

There are still here several Families who cou'd not get Corn early enough for the planting Season, and those who went to plant make some visits for provisions, having really not Sufficient means of Subsisting without it, until their Corn is ripe; However necessary it may be at present to assist their Wants your Excellency may be assured of my care to prevent its being established into a precedent that wou'd be burthensome to Government, and in the end fatal to themselves. indeed the more reasonable part of them have no such expectation, beyond the placing them in a situation to raise their Corn as formerly; The Hoes & Axes are arrived, and are highly acceptable to them at this time, as for Grain the principal Article is good Indian Corn, with some Squashes and Pumkin Seed, your Excellencys Judgment in providing them without their knowledge, will heighten the value of the Donation, and guard against accidental disappointment.—

The many War partys that have marched against the Rebels since last Winter, whilst they cause a Saving in the Article of provisions, encrease the expence of Indian goods, this at present seems unavoidable, but the practice is soon laid aside when the necessity ceases

I presu
for Lo
appea
Excell

cease. — Mr Sullivan (the Rebel General) aſsured the Congreſs in his Letter that he had now fully humbled the Six Nations, & that the Frontiers wou'd be perfectly secure, — I believe they are now fully convinced of their error, and of his Vanity, it nevertheleſs seems neceſsary to keep up this Spirit among the Indians till they can be otherwise occupied, and I shall use my best endeavors to do it at as little Expence as poſsible, until I can be supplied in the manner your Excellency proposes, — There is not much goods here at present in case of any Exigence, but Cloathing is not always the heaviest Article in Indian expences, There are many Articles introduced for which there does not appear to be a proper channel, besides Orders for past matters not tender'd in time, and many such continually to be given for particular services & expenditures, These I found it had been the practise to give on the Merchant who aſsisted in supplying the Department, because those who receive the Order are desirous of taking part in such goods as they like, but in reality thro' the Want of a sufficient quantity of Circulating Cash, particularly small Coins, and these are difficult to be procured even in Canada so that this practise is likely to Continue thro Neceſsity until the Superintendant can be supplied with such Cash, or Temporary Warrants to procure it in time. —

Altho' my Officers are much employed on Service, there are yet times when the Majority of them are neceſsarily here, particularly since the destruction of the Indian Villages, I am therefore compelled to provide for making some quarters for them, the Huts &c in which they have been quarter'd, being not only old & ruinous, but from the State of the Times, & the dutys occasionally here, there is not room for half of them, and their quarters are in general meer Hovels; Colo. Bolton from his attention to all deserving Officers had some time since provided a place for making a little barrack for them, which will be attended with small expence, and the constant & faithfull Services of the Officers demand some care in their accomodation. —

The Indians are now in high Spirits, from the hopes they entertain of totally reducing the Rebels, I wish they may meet with no disap-pointments, in the mean time I shall act in all things in Conformity to your Excellencys Wishes, — happy in having been honor'd with your Approbation, and eager to merit it farther. I have the Honor to be, Sir, Your Excellencys most obedient & most Humble Servant

G Johnson

sume to forward (unsealed) a Letter
ord G. Germain, shou'd any part
as exceptionable, I intreat your
llency to strike it out. —

From 1780

Col. Guy Johnson at
Niagara, of the 25th July
Received 9th August, with
several enclosures. —

Fort Herkimer 2d July 1780

Sir

the Commanding Officers of the Melitia or Levies on their March to this Garrison are Requested to send on the Beef or Cattle if they have any with them, if not, agreable to General Orders to Sieze Same from the Inhabitants, and give Certificates for the Same and forward them Emediately to this Garrison as their is not one pound of any kind of Beef here

I am Gentlemen
Your Most Humble Servt.
Lothrop Allen Capt. Com=
manding this Garrison

To Commanding Officers of
Melitia or Levies on their
March to this Garrison

Extract of a Letter from Major DePeyster to Lieut. Col. Bolton, dated at Detroit Aug. 6th 1780.

The inclosed information I took after the Gage sail'd. The Indians are much alarmed at it, especially as all their Chiefs, with some of their principal Warriors, are now on the way here, to listen to Col. Johnson's Speech sent by Kayoshota.

This afternoon, or to morrow morning, the Indians here will aſsemble in Council, as there are some Mingoes, Delawares, and Shawanese already arrived, I am convinced they will call upon me for aſsistance.

The Troops just arrived, are much Fatigued, and you know this Garrison is very weak — The Company of Rangers will be trifling without a Detachment of Soldiers — The Canadians Captain Bird declares are not worth sending, except upon Corvée — still something must be done, if the Indians insist upon it: In this Situation I will not send a Detachment to Michilimackinac 'till I receive your further orders, which I hope will be accompanied with a reinforcement.

As no Veſsel is yet arrived from Michilimackinac, I should at any rate be at a loſs for a conveyance to send a Detachment there, unleſs I was to break off the Dunmore from bringing Provisions.

Extract of a Letter from
Major DePeyster to Lieut.
Col. Bolton, dated at
Detroit Augt. 6th. 1780

Niagara Aug.t 8th 1780

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Sir

I have this day received Letters from Major De Peyster and Captain Bird, Copies of which I have the honor to inclose. Colonel Johnson informs me that Joseph has paid a visit to the Oneida Village, which with their Fort he set fire to; One hundred of them are on their way to this Post, and the Rest thought proper to retreat to Fort Stanwix, which obliged him and his party of three hundred and twenty men to march with all the Expedition possible towards the Mohawk River, as there was no doubt but an Express would be sent off to alarm the Inhabitants. Lieutenant Docksteder in a letter to Colonel Johnson acquaints him that he has taken a Block House at Wood back Valley near Bedford, in which there was a Captain and eleven Rangers, the Lieutenant and a party of his men had left it some hours before his arrival; they report that Charles Town had surrendered, and four thousand of their best Troops had been made Prisoners, also that an Engagement had happened near Morris Town and Washington had been defeated, but their Loss was not made known, which gave them reason to imagine it must have been very considerable. The Rebels are now raising seven months men with all the expedition possible, but as Colonel Johnson will write to your Excellency in a day or two, he will inform you more particularly concerning our Indian Affairs.

I am with Great Respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Obliged Humble Servant
Mason Bolton

P.S.
Augt 9th

Lt Colonel Butler arrived this Evening in the Ontario, and delivered me Your Excellency's Letter of the 30th of June, 7th, 12th and 24th of July. Those which were inclosed to me for Col. Johnson I have sent to him. This moment I have received the inclosed Information (of a Deserter) & letter from Major De Peyster.

British Museum

His Excellency General Haldimand

From Δ 1780

Lieut. Col. Bolton

8th Augt. Recd. 26th —

Enclosures

No. 1, 2, 3 & 4. —

(Copy) Inclosed 80

To
Colonel Guy Johnson
at Niagara —— 12. Aug^{t}

Extract

Ent^{d} fol.^{o} 63.

Niagara, Augt. 11th. 1780.

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Lieut. Clement reports to Col. Johnson that after Captn. Brants Party had burnt and destroyed the Oneida Village of Conawarohare together with the Rebel Fort & Church & retired some time to deceive the Enemy, they proceeded to the Mohock River with above 300 Indians & arrived at the Settlement called the Kleys Barrick about 10 oClock A.M. on the 2d. Augt. which having reconnoitred, he in Conjunction with the Chief Warriors thought proper to Detach David Karacunty with the greater part of the Indians with directions to make a Detour & Suddenly attack Fort Blank, whilst Joseph with the remainder shoud come on directly & prevent any Scattered parties from taking Shelter in the Fort. – In this design they were disappointed by the too great eagerness of the Indians to make prisoners, who scattered and alarmed the Settlement by which means a Considerable Number of men got into the Fort and made an attack unadvisable as it was well fortified against an assault & had two pieces of Canon mounted – disappointed in this they advanced to the upper part of the Settlement where the Rebels had a Stockaded Fort at the House of Hendric Waldrods which they abandoned, This they immediately Burn'd & Scattering, the Indians destroyed Houses &ca till they came to Allias Mass's where they had another Picketted Fort which they likewise Burnt. – The Extent of the Settlement Destroyed was in length, on the Mohock River above 6 Miles & above 4 in Breath, & contained above 100 houses, two mills – 1 Church & 2 Forts – they took & killed 300 head of Black Cattle – 200 Horses, besides Sheep, hogs, poultry &ca a Considerable quantity of grain of different kinds – The

Col. Johnson.

Number of Kill'd & Prisoners Amounts to above 45. — Captain Brant released a Number of Women & Children — having effected this, Captain Brant retired to the Butter Nutts about 3 Days march — from whence he dispatched Lieut. Clement with the above intelligence — he intending with the greater part of the Indians to pay the Rebels another visit before their Return for which purpose they have Divided into seven partys the principal of which propose to attack the following places Vizt. Schohary, Cherry Valley, The German Flatts &ca as Circumstances may direct. —

The news is, That the Troops who came up to reinforce some of the posts are ordered down again, and that the People are sending their Effects from the West, to the East side of Hudsons River. —

Signed

Jos. Clement Lieut. Indn. Dept.

Augt. 14th 1780.–

Lieut. Clements Report to
Col. Johnson containg the
substance of Capt Brants
Successfull proceedgs &c
inclosed in Col: Johnsons
Letter of the 12th August
Recd. 26th

Niagara August 14th. 1780.

Sir,

This Moment Lieut. Clement of my Department arrived Expreſs with a Letter from Capt Brant giving me a brief account of his succeſs on the Mohock River on the 2d. inst. and referring me for particulars to the Lieutenant whose information I have the Honor to inclose to your Excellency.—

The Destruction of the Oneida Village and the Rebel Fort there, with his having recently destroyed a rich Settlement, with Two Smallforts and above One hundred Houses, & destroyed & taken so many Cattle, with what may be Expected from his having Subdivided the party who are gone against other places, must be sensibly felt by the Rebels along that communication,— Capt Brant says in his Letter that he "thinks it the finest opportunity to attack Ft. Stanwix," and wishes I would mention it to your Excellency,— whenever such matters are pointed out to me, I acquaint them with the time neceſsary to prepare, & carry such Military operations into execution, and that it depends on the Utility of the Object, and the prospect of keeping poſseſsion of it, with many other contingencies.— I expect news from other partys very soon, but I am at present so circumstanced and Surrounded by Indians, that I can only Aſsure your Excellency of the perfect respect with which I am, Sir, Your Excellencys, Most Obedient and most Humble Servant

G Johnson

I inclose also a Letter taken on the road that shews the Rebel mode of Supplying their Troops & their wants at the Garrisons.—

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c.

At a Meeting of the Commiss.rs
of Indian affairs for the Northern
Department with the Oneyda Nation
at Schenectady the 16th august 1780

Present.
General Schuyler
Mr. Douw
and a number of other Gent.s from Albany &
Schenectady—

Grasshopper one of the Oneyda Chiefs informed the Commissioners that their Pipes were lighted and ready to proceed to Business

Whereupon Genl. Schuyler informed them that the Commissioners thanked the great God for having brought them together, and altho they were Glad to see them here in health yet they were sorry on the Occasion that brought them together with the few Tuscaroras and Caghnawagas together at this place and that the Army which was last ~~winter~~ Summer carried into the Country of the Six Nations they hoped would have brought them to a sense of their Duty & Situation, but that it seemed they listened too much to the Intrigues of the Enemy & their Emissaries, if ~~they~~ it had been conceived that they notwithstanding

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

the Sufferings they have undergone and the offers made them, would have been Hostile it would have been easy for us to have Marched an Army again into their Country but we for this time paid our Attention to the Sea Coast, and that we had no doubt but they considering their own Interest & the Interest of the United States, would have remained Peaceable, and that we would at last Crown our efforts with Peace & Glory—

We have at all times inviolably observed the Treaty made between and as faithful Allies when danger approached you invited you down, this Danger has been realized you have suffered and so have we—

We invited you to Fort Hunter, you are now here where you will remain till a more suitable place can be appointed & we have appointed Major Fonda & Mr. McFarlan to supply you with Provisions

They were here in Town & Cautioned them against taking too much Liquor, There are many who do not drink Strong Liquor advised them to take such as are in

Liquor out of the Streets had by being
met with our People in the same situation
and a Squabble insue

Cautioned them against taking Vegetables
from the Inhabitants without their
Consent—

Before proceeding to the News which was
good, advised taking a Drink to revive
the Hearts especially of such who were
our warm Friends

After refreshing Genl. Schuyler observed—

It is about two Years we informed you that
the King of France had entered into an
alliance with us— as soon as we
have had received the Account of his having
become our F[illegible]d and Ally we acquain-
ted the Six Nations with it— You
had been our Friends believed it, but
others tho' they believed it for a Moment
at last disbelieved it— We could not
prove it, we could not call upon you
to convince yourselves by seeing the
Fleet or Army— Had the whole Six

nat: is remained our Friends like you they might go and see it, however such of you as please may go to ~~[illegible]~~ Rhode Island and there see it, if it were necessary we cou'd inform you of their object, but the French Genl. will inform you that his Master has sent him to assist the Americans to drive the English from our Coast.

Recommends their going Personally that they may Convince those who do not go of what they may see

It is not the intention that the whole shou'd go, recommend 12 or 13, and when they return the like number to go to satisfy themselves in Veiwing the French Fleet and Army — gave a Belt

Brothers we will proceed to name such of the Oneydas & Tuscaroras as we wish to go and then proceed to name the Cagnuagas

Desired them to signify whether they would go, and if not that others may be appointed & that Mr. Deane will accompany such as do go & and thereupon adjourn'd nominated

who agreed to go—

And thereupon Grasshopper oneyda chief spoke as follows
says he was happy at seeing the Commissrs
together and thanked the great God that
he had preserved them and the Commissrs
and that as it were had saved them out
of the midst of the Fire as the Enemy
had burnt ~~before~~ both above & below
them—

That they will take Care that
the Inhabitants will remain
secure in their Property, and returns
thanks for the good opinion entertained of them

Wish they might have a place
where they will be together and prefers
some where along the Banks of the River

Since the renewal of the ancient
Covenant at Albany some have gone off
Voluntarily to the Enemy, others have been by
Artifice drawn there, but those now here
have faithfully & mean for the future to observe
that Covenant—

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

Quebec 20th August 1780.–

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His Excellency General Haldimands Answer to the six Nations upon their Messages sent by their Deputies last Spring.

Bretheren the six Nations!

With these Strings I wipe your Eyes off Tears for your lost Friends, open your Ears that you may hear what I am going to say, and clear your throat that speak without Oppression.

3 Strings

Bretheren I am now going to give you my Answer upon your Messages from your Confederacy of last Spring, And altho' I detained you a good While, Yet it was not without Reason, And the six Nations have since your Arrival been made acquainted with your Delay.–

a String

Bretheren

You must be sensible that my Situation in this remote Country is such that I must have sharp Lookout far & near, with my Neck stretched out to watch the Motions of our restless Enemies the Rebels and their Allies. I must in the first place guard against their Ships who are continually upon the Coast & Mouth of this River to steal away our Merchant Ships wh are in a Manner defenceless.

defenceless carrying only Our and Your Necessaries of Cloathing and other Conveniencies of Life. — Then I must cast my Eyes all the way from this to Detroit and Michilimakina, to guard &c. them in that Quarter, keep up a Communication with your Father the Kings Generals & Admirals along Sea Coast & direct myself by their Proceedings & Operations, so that the Rebels cannot undertake any Thing of Consequence against us without my Knowledge. — In short I have more Business & Matters to attend to than you possibly can imagine.

A Bunch of Wampum.

Brethren,

I have allways the Wellfare of the Kings Friends and Allies among the 6 Nations particularly at heart which I could convince them of by several Instances, and am still determined to do all in my Power towards the Protection of their Country against their Enemies, being allways prepared to march to their Assistance at very short Notice to any Quarter in my District they may invade. At the same time I am now pretty well convinced that there is nothing intended this Year against their Country, or the Rebels taking Post at Oswego. I have all along intended to take possession of and fortify that place, but am well informed that Carleton Island is a very strong & formidable Post, which is no great Distance from Oswego; and therefore considered it a needleſs Expence, and you will think with me that the erecting of a Post is attended with much Trouble and Expence, besides it divides & weakens our Forces, and in my Opinion the 6. Nations having Niagara on one End of Lake Ontario and Carleton I: on the other, enjoy more Protection & Advantage than any Ind. Nation in the upper Country. —— Last Year I was early ready to march to the Aid & protection of the six Nations — I intending to send their Friend Sir Jn. Johnson with a sufficient Body of Men & Implements of War, but the Enemies Motions towards this Quarter were soon after such that out of two Evils I had to chuse that, which tended most to our mutual Safety and Interest and therefore saw it neceſsary to retard that March for a while in order to protect this Province. — But since last Autumn the King your Fathers Operations against the Rebels & their Allies have taken so favorable a Turn every where, but in particular along the Southern Seacoast, that with the further Bleſsing of Providence he has a good Prospect of bringing his Rebellious Subjects to Reason & Obedience. For the King's Troops since last Fall have twice defeated the main Army of the Rebels & Allies and lately taken the principal Town of the Southern Colonies together with 5 Generals & 5 or 6.000. Men, And in short our Succeſses both by Sea and Land are likely to bring about an approaching End of this unnatural War when all those who have acted a loyal and dutifull part during the War, will reap the Sweets of Peace Friendship & Protection [illegible] the Rebels and their Adherents such as the traiterous Oneidas and others will be forever despised and neglected.

a Belt & Bunch of Wamp.

The Behaviour of the rebel Oneidas taking lately Possession & stealing & destroying what they could find upon their senior Brothers the Mohawks lands & settlements, is a Breach of Friendship & Brotherly Alliance & a Crime of the blackest Dye to commit, after the others were drove off by the Rebels in the most cruel & unjust Manner; and will be equally resented by the whole Body of their Brothers & Confederates. I for my part cannot pass it over unnoticed, on Account of the Mutual Engagements of Friendship subsisting of old between the King of England & the Confederacy, and shall endeavour to do the Mohawks Justice as much as in my power, and am not in the least doubtfull of the hearty and chearfull Concurrance of the rest of their Friends & Brothers.

a good Belt of Wm.

BRITISH MUSEUM

His Excellency
Genl Haldimands
Answer to
The Six Nations, upon
their Messages of
last Spring
5th Sepr. 1780.

(Copy)

Wakitamikie Sepr. 15th 1780

Sir,

Since my arrival here, there has not been any thing worth mentioning, or I should have acquainted you of it ere this. Some time ago being informed that there was an Army of the Rebels at the Town Canhawa, I thought proper to send a scouting-Party that way to know the certainty of it, sending Mr. Reynolds and Monsr. Le Duc with some Indians who are not yet returned. — If they bring any News I shall acquaint you.

Yesterday a Belt was brought in from Coockawking from a Monsr. Lintot a Frenchman in the Rebel Interest; for particulars I refer you to Capt. McKie's Letter —

It is the request of the Indians at this Place, that in case you should send any Troops and Indians to their assistance, that they may come by Sandusky, as it is there they expect the Rebels will first make a Stroke.

The Six pounder I send off to the Rapids by Mr. Clench who goes with some Rangers and some Indians and some Canadians, as that is one of my greatest cares least it should fall into the hands of the Enemy, as I shall always keep it in my Rear. The disadvantage I lay under here for want of Silver Works, has obliged me to send to You for some, which I hope you will send me by the first opportunity — Capt. McKie and myself have been obliged to borrow some from Wm. Brown. I have thought proper to send Mr. Elliot to the Wyandot Towns to see what the Indians are about there. The Rangers are almost naked for want of Cloathing.

I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Servt.

To
Major De Peyster.

(Signed) Peter Hare Capt. of Rangrs.
Commanding a Detachment
of Rangers & Canadians in
the Indian Country —

P. S. We are building a Block House at the request of the Indians — Miller is very useful to us ..

Copy of a Letter from Capt.
Hare to Major De Peyster
dated at Wakitamikie
Sepr. 15th. 1780

(Copy)

Upper Shawanese Village Sepr 15th
1778

Sir,

The enclosed Speeches and intelligence were delivered Yesterday by two Delawares, and as every particular respecting the determination of the Indians here upon it is already inserted, must take the liberty of referring you thereto — They are now fully of opinion that an Army of the Enemy is in motion to strike them — Two Parties of the Delawares in our favour are out towards Fort Pitt, and two Parties of the lower Shawanese to Kentucky, with a party accompanied by white Men gone to Kanhawa, the return of the last Party is hourly expected, by whom it is probable we shall receive some material accounts, and I am sending other Parties with white Men towards Fort Pitt, so that a few Days will put us in certainty of their designs —

Captain Hare is here with his Company of Rangers, which gives those Indians some Spirits, as he is already much respected by them, 'tis pity more could not be spared to support, and encourage them, being willing to oppose the Enemy as far as in their power.

I shall write you soon again, should any further information of the Enemies approach arrive, in ye mean time, am with respect Sir

Your most Obedient
and very Humble Servant
(Signed) A McKee

Colonel Johnston

Extracts of Letters —

Extract of a Letter from Major De Peyster, dated at Detroit Sepr. 18th. 1780

" The Angelica arrived yesterday from Michili=
":makinac. I herewith forward a Letter from
" Capt. Mompesson — His report to me of Lieut. Clowes
" behaviour is such, that, without waiting to hear from
" you, I have sent Ensign McDougal to relieve him.

" Capt. Mompesson tells me that they have in
" Store, three years and a half Provisions for one hundred
" men — The Wellcome was not then arrived with a
" load. I now send off the Angelica with
" an hundred Barrels of Rum, and the rest Provisions,
" which will secure that Post from wanting — 'till
" I hear from you, I shall not think it prudent to
" send more."

" I am informed by an Indian Chief that Capt.
" Hare has got the Cannon with him at the Wakatamakie.
" I am in daily expectations to hear of the motions of the
" Enemy."

September 22d. ...... "The annexed Intelligence I just received
" from Captn. Hare and Mr. McKee — In consequence of
" which I assembled the Indians present, and am sending
" them off to join at Wakatamakie.

" I know it is in vain to hope for a
" Reinforcement, 'till the Fleet arrives with Troops: but
" it is my firm opinion, that a Regiment should be
" quartered at Detroit."

Copy of a Letter from
A. McKee to Colonel
Johnston dated Sept 15th
1780

Upper Shawanese Town

And

Two Extracts of Letters from
Major De Peyster to Lieut.
Col. Bolton, dated at Detroit
the 18th & 22d Sepr 1780

From 1780.
Major de Peyster
9th Septr. Recd. 27th
Appraisment
Hog Island

Upper Shawanese towns Sept 15 — 1780

Speech sent by a Frenchman in the Rebel Service at Fort Pitt to the Shawanese, Delawares, Mingoes, Hurons & the Nations in alliance with them. —

Children

Once more I desire you to listen to me; upon my arrival last Spring at Kooshawking, I then spoke to you and out of Pity endeavour'd to represent the Miseries that were likely to overtake you, pointing out at the same time the means that you might avoid them; to which I receiv'd no Answer, not discourag'd at this, about Harvest I spoke to you again upon the same Subject, still anxious to save you from destruction, but you have rejected all my proposals for promoting your peace and tranquility; therefore all I had to say on that head is at an end; and perhaps what I am now going to say may be more agreeable to your inclinations, as you seem determined to prosecute the Warr be strong, you shall have enough of it —

Children

All you who have struck the Virginians & continue to do so strike your Antient Father the French, you strike the Spaniards, and you strike Six towns of my Dutyful Children who have joined me to punish those who persist in being disobedient; therefore, all who have refused to embrace peace must prepare to fight for be assured you will have all those Nations to encounter, & in twenty days from the date hereof they will approach your towns, I have now forewarned you of your danger, & if you still prefer listening to, the English to peace; You will not only find the Virginians hatchet as Sharp as theirs, but your antient father the french have an Ax as Sharp as theirs, the Spaniards have one equally so. and the Six towns of of my Children have a hatchet tho small as Sharp as theirs — Now my Children what is your dependance; inevitable ruin must be the fate of all who are found beyond Kooshawking —

A large White Belt 12 Rows with two rows of black wampum in the Center, a Square at one end & the figures of two Hatchets at the Other

Message from Colonel Broadhead Commanding the Rebel forces at Fort Pitt to the Delawares of Whitstone —

Brothers,

I call you by that Name, but it is only those who listen to me, as I am convinced there is still some Indians of that Village who deserves my pity, I desire the to rise and come out of danger, I am now upon my feet and ready to strike all my Enemies in that Country, all beyond Kooshawking I deem as such, therefore you shall have twenty days to repair to that place, where I expect in that time to take all by the hand who comply, even those who have struck me upon appearing there as Friends shall be forgiven; but all who delay it longer must prepare to receive the Discharge of my Guns — 2 Small Strings black and white Wampum

The above Messengers say they were informed that the Enemy are to come by four different ways. Expresses being sent to Kentucky to join an army coming by the Kenhawa at the Shawanese Villages, That Colonel Broadhead with the main body is to march the road by the Tuskarawas to Sanduskie, & to detach three hundred horse & Eight hundred foot to cut off Whitstone Villages the whole to form a rejunction at the Huron Villages. & from thence go against Detroit. Eleven days is to come of the time allowed the Whitstone Delawares to go to Koo-shawking — The Delawares Shawanese & Mingoes present having considered the above Speeches & Intelligences,

unanimously

agreed to stand their Ground & Oppose the Enemy & to enable them to call for the Assistance of their Father the English; and Nations of Indians in their Alliance; their Chiefs Speaking to the following effect - 402

Friends & Brother Warriors

You have now heard the Speech brought by in the Name of the French, whom we formerly called father; accompanied with one from our Enemies the Virginians. we thought they were our only Enemies, but now find the French & Spaniards have joined them; therefore we must determine to defend ourselves like men against all who are their friends; they threaten us with immediate destruction but friends the great Spirit who has placed us here has not made us for their disposal at will & on him we must rely, & on the Engagement of our Fathers the English & their Children; for it was for this purpose that all the Indian Nations made themselves one with them the better to enable them to Oppose any invasion of our Country; these Belts & Speeches shall be immediately sent to Detroit for our Fathers Consideration accompanied by this Belt, that has passed between us and which he knows has never spoke false he is wise & will soon send us an Answer; In the mean time let us take Courage & watch our Enemies Motions; tho they have drove us from our Cornfields, our hearts are firm & we can never be Conquered while our Father the English & the Six Nations are upon their feet - A Black Belt 7 Rows

2 A twist of Tobacco was then sent to inform the Indians of Sandusky of the above intelligence & to enjoin them to watch the Enemy, & another twist was delivered to Call for the assistance of the Miamies -

Speech sent by a Frenchman in
the Rebel Interest at Ft Pitt to
the Shawanese Delaware Mingoes, &c
recd 28th at Night —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Amount of Lieut. Governor Hamilton's Bills for my pay from the 24th. September 1778 to the 24th. April 1780. as Lieutenant to the Detroit Volunteers And Western Indian Department at Nine Shillings Sterling per diem £253. 11. ..

from the 24th. April to the 24th. September 1780 } 71. 11 —

— Sterling £ 325. ..2 —

Governor Hamilton had assured those Officers that had followed him on that unfortunate Campaign, his intercession with His Excelly. the Commander in Chief for the allowance of Batt and Forrage — Mr. Schieffelin prays: that the above £ be paid him, if His Excelly. should think him intitled to the same. Agreeable to his Appointments under the Administration of His Excellys. the Commander in Chief's Predecessor (the 22 June 1777 the date of his Commission)

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Albany October 10th 1760

The Oneida and Tuscarora Tribes of Indians who were driven from their Country by the enemy in the month of July last, retired to Schenectady where they have since remained to the number of four hundred and six including Seven Caghnawagas who followed them [illegible] from Oneida &c. [illegible] and myself visited them [illegible] August condoled them for the misfortune they had experienced and endeavoured [illegible] their attachment by assuring them of the good disposition of [illegible] regard to them and by promising that comfortable Quarters and good [illegible] should be allowed them; I directed them to be lodged in the barracks; previous to my arrival a contract had been made for providing them with provisions at a shilling the price of a ration of provisions [illegible] per head [illegible] in York Money; this I approved of believing they would have been well supplied, but since my return from Canada they have made frequent complaints that they suffered having been confined to my Room ever since my return to this place I have not had it in my power to make

such enquiries as to enable me to determine wether
the complaints are well grounded, but I am Informed
the Contractors have not received any money and that
they will give up the Contract in a few Days, If they
should It will be extreamly embarrassing as there is no
provision of any kind in the public Stores, and as the
Commissioners have not any money either to discharge
former debts or to purchase provision for a present
Subsistence for these faithful and unfortunate people
I believe it would be best to contract with some
suitable person to furnish them with specific articles
and at [illegible] delivered them to an agent appointed by
Congress or the Commissioners for the purpose, this would
obviate all cause of complaint, the public would save some
to save more than a Shilling per head. I beg the direction of
Congress on this head. the poverty of these people
renders them an affecting spectacle of distress, few
having clothing sufficient to render them comfortable
at this season. their sufferings will be great in the cold
weather
season, &c, I have to intreat Congress to attend to
their situation and afford them some relief.-

A supply of fire wood for the Indians in their
present situation will occasion considerable expence
I propose to remove them to some wood upon as
I can procure a few boards to cover their huts

A small debt of Seventy five Dollars in those

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has been some time due to the Oneidas for snow shoes which they have made, I have tryed in vain to borrow the money here. I wish it may be remitted to Mr Dow, or an order on Governor Clinton whom I believe has some specie in hand disposable by Congress; permit me also to request an order on the loan office in this State in favor of Mr Dow for one thousand dollars of the new Emission, or what may suffice to discharge the debts and money borrowed on our Joint Credit.—

I have the honor to be with great respect and Esteem

Your Excellency's

most obedient Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler

Since writing the above one of the Contractors for supplying the Indians has been with me, he says they are well supplied except in the article of Corn which cannot be procured; he complains that they have not yet received a farthing of money, and is apprehensive that the supplies will fail unless he is furnished with money

His Excellency Samuel Huntington Esqr: &c &c

No. 198

Letter from Genl. Schuyler
Oct 10. 1780

Read 20

Referred, what relates to
Cloathing the Prisr. to Comm. of war
the remr. to the board of war

List of Necessary Clothing for 406. Indian
Men Women & Children

93 Blankets for men
54 do. for women
200. do. of a Smaller size for Children from 8
Years old & upwards

406 Yards of Strouds, or other Coarse Cloath
Equivalent for Breech Clouts, petticoats
Leggins and wrappers for little Children

93 Mens Shirts

Coarse linnen for 54 womens Shifts, and
for Shifts & Shirts for 259 Children

Camblet or Callico for Short Gowns for
100 women & Girls
100 pair of Coarse Stockings of the
Smallest Size
93 Woolen Caps
12 Dozen Knives, or Cuttoes
10 lb. of Vermillion If to be had
needles & thread to make up the Cloathing

Travelling in Indiana

At a Meeting held at Colo. Guy Johnson's Quarters at Niagara the 29th Octor. in the Presence of Brigadeer General Powel & Lt. Colo. Bolton before Colo. Johnson Superintendant &ca. And other Officers of his Department with the Chiefs of the Six Nations &ca — — — — — —

being introduced & Seated the Indians
By Aaron the Mohock Chief addreſsed Colo. Johnson as follows.

Brother

We are come here now before you on your Intimation to us of the Arrival of a General at this Place & that Colo. Bolton is going down the Country, We are few in Number as you know, our Chiefs are almost all at War but we Speak for the whole as we know their Hearts.

Brother

We first take our new Brother the General by the Hand and welcome him to this Place, hoping that the great Spirit will direct him to act wisely and that he will be our friend and we aſsure him that we shall be ready to shew him our Regard & hearken to his Councils. — We in the next Place take our brother Colo. Bolton by the Hand aſsuring him of our Regard and that we shall never forget that during some Years he has had the Command of this Place he has always used his Endeavours to do us Justice & to aſsist us in all things in his Power & we wish that the great Spirit may preserve him when he goes away towards the Sun rising

Brother.

we have no more to say at present but to aſsure the Gener of our Love hoping he will always remember that we are a People who have been long true & faithful to the great King. And we hope that under a General who we hear is a good & wise Man & with a Superintendant who knows us so well as you do & who studies to direct us for the best that we shall continue as happy as we have been till we have conquered our Enemies. — — — — — —

General Powell then addreſsed the Indians Expreſsing his Satisfaction at seeing them, with Aſsurance that he would continue to do all on his Part for them & would shew all poſsible Kindneſs to the deserving, recommending it to them to continue to deserve well of Government and aſsuring them he shoud continue to aſsist Colo. Johnson's Endeavours & afford him his Countenance in the discharge of His Duty. — — — — — — —

Colo. Bolton then addreſsed them in a few Words, thanking them for their favorable Remembrance of his Attention to them, Aſsuring them that he woud make a like Report to the Commander in Chief of their good Behaviour particularly those who had distinguished themselves. Adding that they might depend on General Powell's pursuing the same Measures for promoting their Happineſs & wishing them to continue by their good Conduct to preserve the Reputation they had acquired. — After which Colo. Johnson addreſsed them saying, he was very happy to find they had had so agreeable an Interview with the General & Colo. Bolton & that they might rely on the Generals pursuing the same friendly System for which they had expreſsed their Gratitude to Colo. Bolton, whose friendship they had long experienced. —— That he hoped they woud on their Parts by their gallant Services, their orderly Deportment, And Endeavors to prevent Irregularities endeavour to establish the good Opinion the General had conceived of them in which Case he coud aſsure them of his Friendly Regards. — — — — — —

To which they answered with many Thanks to the Genl. And good wishes to Colo. Bolton And that they shoud use all endeavours in their Power to prevent Irregularities and deserve Favour. —— Then after being ordered Some Liquor as a Compliment from the General and Colo. Bolton they took Leave. — — — — — —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Duplicate

No. 18

Proceedings at a
Meeting held at Col.
Johnsons Quarters
before Brigr. General Powell
Octr. 29th. 1788.–
Recd 2d Decr.

Duplicate — 1780

From Col. Johnson at Niagara
of the 30th. Octr. Recd. 2d. Decr.

Duplicate

Niagara, Octo.r 30.th 1780.

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Sir/

I have been honor'd with your Excellency's Letters of the 29th Ult.o & 9th of this Instant the former accompanying Two Blank Commissions, for which I am to Express my Thanks. Assuring your Excellency that in all promotions and appointments I shall be solely guided by the merits and capacities of those recommended. & the state of the service and every Object duly attended to that you have been pleased to Direct. — I am Exceedingly concern'd at the great consumption of provisions, It is at present Lessening, and I am taking every measure to prevent and reduce it; to effect this I have lately call'd in all the Old tickets. & taken an Exact Account of the Number of Indians at every fire Place. the Officers Do likewise make Entries & make reports of all Indians who come in, or go out on Service, or otherwise. & it shall be my particular Study by all possible means to reduce the consumption of Provisions as much as possible. — Above one third of the Indian Confederacy have lost their all, and are as yet without settlement encamp'd in this neighborhood and subsisting principally on the rations they received here, and I am sorry to say that their peculiar Situation has inclined some of them to be guilty of a few depredations. to put a stop to which I have denied them Rum for the present & directed them to change their Ground. — The Chiefs Yesterday were presented to Gen.l Powell and took their leave of Col.l Bolton who carrys down the Minutes of what passed on the Occasion in which they enlarg'd much on his past Kindness and attention to them, & made many promises of good behavior to Gen.l Powell who gave them a gracious reception —

His Excellency
Gen.l Haldimand

The Oneidas in general behave very well they have taken some prisoners & several of them are still on service, the few that have not come in are mostly Attached to the Rebels in such a manner that the best cannot convert them & will not associate with them, but your Excellency may depend on my watching all their Motions so as to prevent their Executing any evil purpose. many reports have been circulated by the Rebels & conveyed to the Indians of the arrival of a Large French Army, with intent to allarm, but I shall use my endeavors to defeat their Expectations.— I am inform'd that boats are on their way to Carleton Island with Indian presents for my Department, & Brigdr. Genl. Powell is apprehensive from the Quantity of Provisions and Stores wanted, that they may not all be got across the Lake this Season, which will be a great Disappointment as the Indns. West of this must be well provided, for Reasons given in a form. Letter.— I have as yet no Account or List of the Cargoe, but must get arms, paint, and some other articles immediately from the Island, as I have bought but a small quantity of Goods lately, and very little of these Articles, although the consumption occasioned by the constant services of so many hundred Indians since last winter requires large Supplies, & .... Acct. in some Measure for the Necessity of it.— I find it highly Expedient to watch the motions of the Ohio Delawares. And to encourage the Senecas Nearest to them in order to defeat the schemes and practices I've lately discover'd, As Colo. Bolton who has been ever attentive to the objects of his command, & has paid much attention to the State of the Indians, is now going to your Excellency & carries with him some States relative thereto, he can furnish you with all material information and so soon as some more parties come in, I shall transmit a General State of the transactions of the year.— I have the Honor to be &ca

G Johnson

Duplicate. 1780.
From Col. Johnson at Niagara
of the 30th Oct.: Recd. 2d. Decr.

From 1780

Lieut. Colonel Campbell

of the 30th Octr. Recd. 1st Novr.

Montreal the 18th Novr 1780

Sir

The Bearer of this and his companion are Both Chiefs of the Caughnawaga village and are Faithful trusty Indns. They are now going with Messages from the five Nations, and the Seven Villages within this province, to twenty five Villag of the Mickmacks. To engage them in the Strongest terms to be faithful to their Grea Father the King as they are, and to be deaf Like them to any other words than those that Shal Come from his mouth &c &c &c

I hope you will Be good Enough to order them to be taken care of Duiring their Stay at Quebec

Captn Mathes
headquarters Quebec

which I wish may Be as Short a time a
possible after his Excellency the Com
mander in Chief has received thei
visit,

They are furnished with
thing necessary for their Journey Excep
Provisions which I request you w
cause them to be supplyed with
Likewise a Land or watter Convey
untill they gett to the Last Settleme

I am obliged to give
this trouble as I know not whither
mons Lanniere or any of his Sons

at Quebec or not, Shal either of them hap=
=pen to Be there, you will please give
him your Directions, and the Strangers
in Charge

I have the honor to Be
Sir
your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
John Campbell.

To
Captn Mathews &c.

From [illegible] 1780.
Lieut. Col. Campbell
18th Novr. Recd. 27th

Mon pere nous sommes venus pour repondre ala parolle que les Abenaquis nous ont envoie en reponse dune parolle que deux chefs du Sault St Louis leur avoient porté —

les Abenaquis nous donner deux branches de porcelaine en nous disant que cetoit pour nous engager a nous reposer une journé vu que nous etions fatigué et quils etoient content de nous voir. et nous parler du collier des sept nations que nous aportions de la part du General

Les chefs de Gaire prire la parolle et nous dirent tenez voila deux branches pour vous faire reposer une journé et nous vous parlerons —

Les Abenaquis donner une branche en disant vous ne partirez pas que nous neions fait chercher vos ripes parce que vous vous geleriez.

parolle des chefs de Gaire je vous voie presentement tres bien et nous croions toutes les parolles des sept vilages Catoliques et vos parolles nous ont entré dans le Cœur et nous ont donné de lesprit mais nos jeunes gens ne sont point icy nous allons les faire venir et les engager a aller en Gaire.

les femmes prirent la parolle et dirent quelles prioint les femme du Sault dencourager leurs jeunes gens a aller en gaire parce que cetoit a elles dencourager les jeunes gens à aller en gaire vu que sil ny avoit pas de femmes il ny auroit pas de Guerier

Reponse des femmes du Sault a leurs Sœurs les Abenaquises nous trouvons vos parolles bien bonnes mais nous navons rien adire a nos jeunes gens car

aussitot

Niagara Novr. 18th. 1780.

Sir,

The Letters accompanying this are Duplicates of those Transmitted by Lieut Col.o Bolton on board of the Ontario, the unhappy fate of which Veſsell, your Excellency will have heard of; and its loſs must be sensibly felt at this place, as Brigadier Powell does not think it poſsible to get over any Material part of the Many Articles wanted at this Post, and a very small quantity of the Indian Goods lately sent for the Indians can be expected from Carleton Island.—

Your Excellency may be aſsured that notwithstanding the disappointment which the late Disaster must occasion every poſsible step in my power shall be taken to prevent its distreſsing the Garrison on the score of Provisions, to which end, (as few of the Indians incline to go to the Island, & they are besides afraid to go on Shipboard) I have already sent out some partys on the Winter Hunt, and am encouraging many more to follow their example, I have likewise stationed off as many of my Officers as can be provided for at the remaining Old Indian Towns, and at the New Settlements, to encourage the Indians to remain there as well as to keep them in good order and obtain intelligence of the Rebels motions during the Winter;— inclosed is the Distribution of Quarters, most of which are equidistant from this Post, and may in some measure be considered as convenient advanced Posts towards the Rebels Frontier;— It is an unlucky tho' an unavoidable circumstance that Provisions, are so hard to be

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

procured in adequate proportion to the Consumption, for altho' through the great pains taken, the Indians have been rendered in some degree satisfied with their Ration, yet it is by no means sufficient for them when they return to this Post after being absent for a time, as on such occasions they require double allowance for a few days, and this cannot be afforded to them; — I have on this Subject just received a Letter from Lieut Dachstedder, (who went on Service with Sayengaraghta) informing that some of the Delawares who had moved to Jadaghque (with whom I lately informed your Excellency the disaffected Indians had been tampering) were removing to the Southward alledging that they cou'd not stay for want of provisions, and that they cou'd not get sufficient at this place to support them; — These people do not agree very well with the Senecas, but I have taken measures for restoring matters to a proper Harmony.

Brigadier Powell is taking proper measures for preventing the introducing goods at this place without proper authority which has happened more than once, to the disappointment of Necessary Articles wanting for my Department & others.

Lt Col Butler has represented to me the good behavior of my Officers and Indians on Sir John Johnsons expedition, that many of the Indians behaved with great Spirit, and all of them acquitted themselves as well as cou'd be expected, tho' they had but few Chiefs to encourage them, they being on Service at a distance, — Lieut Magin of my Department who was shot thro the Thigh & left behind has been since found by a party of Senecas who have brought him to Chenussio. — The Oneidas acquitted themselves very well (one excepted) two of them were killed in Action, and one Onondaga; and they took several prisoners and Scalps; — When the Chiefs now on Service return, which will be in about Three Weeks. I shall proceed to make the purchase ordered by your Excellency, and by the next Vessell I shall transmit what farther occurrs, with some Returns.

I have the Honor to be with great Truth and Esteem, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient
and most humble Servant

G Johnson

From LV 1780

Colonel Johnson at Niagara

of the 18th Novr Recd 2d Decr –

Niagara 20th November 1780.

Sir,

I have the Honor to transmit your Excellency a General State of the Officers, and Indians of my Department, with an Abstract at the foot of the Services they have performed to this time (exclusive of what was done with Sir John Johnson) several partys being still out from whom I expect good Accots, a more minute detail of the Indians Transactions shall be sent to your Excellency at the return of the War partys still abroad, one of which Headed at my desire by Sayengaraghta will I hope do more than the rest and will shortly return, He is a good, and a prudent Man, and still retains a Considerable Influence over his people, altho' I shou'd observe that the Tree Chiefs have lost much of their ascendency since the Commencement of the Rebellion, by a neglect of their old Customs, in introducing Young Men of little Experience and Interest to be heads of partys who can't make any sufficient body, without loading them with favors, and I know some Young Men who have strong attachments to Government, and have done very good Service, that must depend on the Superintendants interest and Indulgence to make up any party of Consequence, as they have not acquired sufficient reputation according to the Indian Mode; Whereas the real Chiefs have an Influence derived from long Services in the Indian way, which is of infinite use in the Field; I should likewise observe that it sometimes happens when Indians go out with Small bodies of Soldiers that they do not acquit themselves to Satisfaction, which is frequently owing to the peculiar Customs of Indians and their being apt to alter their route, from Opinion or intelligence

or

His Excellency
General Haldimand &ca

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From [illegible] 1100

Colonel Guy Johnson

Niagara 26th Novr., Recd. 2 Decr.

Niagara 4th. Decr. 1780.

Sir,

On the 20th. ulto. I transmitted a Return of my Department since which by the return of Partys I have been enabled to prepare one that is exact to the present time, which I have now the Honor to inclose to your Excellency, and if an opportunity offers during the Winter shall forward one to compleat the Year, in which I shall be enabled to add the Success of the partys still out.—

In my Letter of the 10th. ulto. (accompanying Duplicates) I mentioned my endeavors to reduce the consumption of provisions and I have since effected it so far as to obtain an exact State of the Indians on the ground and their Numbers which are now daily decreasing as I encourage them to Hunt for the Winter, and some partys go off this day for that purpose, those that remain have been till lately at two Thirds allowance, but within some days, the flour has been so much curtailed that it has occasioned great uneasiness among the Indians. the Chiefs of whom have met me in Council and Spoke on a large Belt Representing that their fidelity & Services to Government having occasioned the invasion of their Country and the Loss of their Towns & property, they were necessitated to depend principally for their Support on this Garrison, and knowing the difficultys attending its Supply they had

patiently

His Excelly.
General Haldimand.

patiently submitted to a scanty allowance, which now they found still farther reduced, & that in the Article they stood most in Need of, so as to threaten them with ruin as their familys must Starve if it is not augmented,

I have used every argument tending to Explain the matter, to their Satisfaction and have indeavored to buy up some Grain at one of the Indian Towns to be distributed among the poorest in order to prevent their coming in for relief; and I shall continue to use my best endeavors for preventing the effects which this reduction may produce, and which if not Judiciously & timely attended to, must oblige them to wander for food, or precipitate them into measures of the most dangerous tendency; Brigadier Powell will fall upon every method in his power to assist me as far as the State of Supplys will permit, and I must indeavor by a greater attention to their other wants to reconcile them to their Situation. –

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that I have been able to procure but a small quantity of the Indian Articles from Carleton Island (Arms excepted of which I have got the greater part) and no Vessell will return after this time, so that I must do as well as I can; – The unforeseen loss of the Ontario, has principally occasioned this, as well as the Scarcity of flour, but I foresee that it may often happen thro' other causes unless prevented by the Measures now taken by Brigadier Powell, as the increased Number of Adventurers in Trade, Their assiduity to get their goods forwarded, and the various practices to effect it, must at the opening and closing the Communication contribute to obstruct and retard, Articles wanted for the Kings Services, as well as goods sent for the purpose of diminishing the expences of my Department; — I have made enquiry respecting the Indian Corn for planting that might be procured, and cannot find there is any Quantity here that can be of use, probably there may have been some sent to Carleton Island, as your Excellency in your Letter of 19th June expressed your kind intentions on that Subject; Two or Three hundred Bushels sent so as to reach this by the first of May, will greatly tend to lessen the Consumption of provisions and prove an acceptable present to the Indians;

Lieut. Bowen lately superseded on Acct of his having been absent for above three years, arrived four days since and gives such an Acct. of his situation, and of the securitys he had to procure, as supported by other late Accounts much in his favor, intitle him to be restor'd & Genl. Powell thinks I shou'd venture to keep him on the Establishment as a Supernumerary (till a Vacancy offers, or until I shall receive your Excellencys Orders) which I can do at only the additional Expence of two Shillings p Diem, by giving him the Volunteers pay now Vacant. —

A late party of mine has taken a Rebel Captain named Demund, who had a Ranging Company & was a Noted persecutor of the Loyalists, he goes down by this opportunity. —

My Inclination to point out every thing necessary for your Excellencys information, that tends to promote the Service and diminish Expences has drawn this Letter out to great Length, for which I entreat your Indulgence, assuring your Excellency that I am with Much respect and Esteem, Sir,

Your Excellencys most obedient &
most humble Servt.

G Johnson

From ——— 1780

Colonel Guy Johnson
at Niagara 4th Decr 1780
Recd by express 11th Jany 81.

BRITISH MUSEUM

(Copy)

Quebec 3nd January 17[illegible]

.155

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 20th Novr covering a State of the Officers & Indians of your Department, with an Abstract of the Services performed by them, & your Observations upon the disadvantages that have arisen from the neglect of Indian Customs, & the Introduction of Young Men as Chiefs in the Commencement of the Rebellion, to which it can only be said that the general confusion in which affairs were at that Time involved, left those upon the Spot but one choice to make, that of engaging the Services of the Indians most ready to attach themselves to Government, and who were foremost when called upon to Act. The main Objects were effectually obtained, preventing the Indians from espousing the Rebel Interest, and afterwards uniting them in ours, Time and the deliberation it would have afforded, might have established arrangements more perfect, and more advantageous in the end, but from the Train in which You found that Department, and you long experienced in the several duties of it, I persuade myself no Improvement that can be made for the King's Service will be neglected.

The Account produced for Provisions furnished for Sir John Johnson's Expedition, you did well to pay, in regard to the others which appear and

Colonel Johnson

have

Fort Pitt Decr 8th 1780

Dear Sir

I have the pleaſure to inform you that the Delaware Council of Cooshocking have declared war against the Seneca Indians and in conſequence of their Declarations have already killed one warrior of that nation upon French Creek, for which there will doubtleſs be a retaliation. and with a ſmall quantity of Goods their force might be entirely diverted from our frontier Settlements. The Indian which was killed by the Delawares belonged to a party conſiſting of eight, who had taken a woman & two Children from Westmoreland County. But as the Delawares did not discover any of the priſoners, it is probable they had been previously murdered. I take this relation from a whiteman, whom I sent with the Indians to obſerve their Conduct.

The Commiſsioner of Westmoreland informs me that he is to purchaſe 7000 Gallons of Whisky for this District. the order from the Honble executive Council I preſume, was to him to comply with the requiſition of his Excellency the Commander in chief, but if it is otherwiſe, I hope we shall yet be alload ſome liquor which is fit to drink.

Mr Perry has not in my opinion answer'd
the Recommendation you received in his favor
And as it appears by the inclosed Copy of a Letter
from Gov.r Jefferson that the greatest part of
the inhabitants on this side the mountain are
indisputably within our State I submit to
your better Judgment whether it might not
be proper to appoint a second Commissioner
for what is now called Monongalia & Yoghagania

Our distresses for want of Meat continue
and I am more convinced than before that
an adequate supply of Meat cannot be had
from the Inhabitants on this side the Mountain

The new arrangement of the Army is indeed
a very Horrible one and many will probably
be induced to retire but for my own part, as
I have been so long in actual Service I hope
to continue in the Field untill the liberty of
my Country is fully established.

I shall be happy to receive a line
from you and have the Honor to be
with the utmost respect & esteem Dear
Sir your most

Obed.t Serv.t

Daniel Brodhead
Col.

His Excelly Jos: Reed Esqr.

Fort Pitt. Dec: 8. 1780 from
Col: D Broadhead

Etat des services rendus par feu Pierre Hertel Debeaubassin depuis qu'il a vécu sous le Gouvernement Britannique — Sçavoir

En 1764 — Il fut pourvu par son Excellence le Gl Murray d'une Commission de Capitaine pour lever une Compagnie Canadienne pour aller contre les Sauvages ce qu'il exécuta. —

En 1774 — Il fut appointé par son Excellence le Gl Carleton Commissaire pour la Conduite des Bateaux —

En 1775 — Le même Génl le Chargea d'aller à St François pour y examiner les Sauvages, connoitre leurs Intentions et informer le Gouvernement de ce qui se passoit dans le Village et dans la Rivière de St François —

Dans la même Année au Mois de Juillet, il fut rappellé et pourvu par le même Général d'une Commission pour aller à St Jean commander les Sauvages sous les Ordres du Commandant du Fort, le dit Sr DeBeaubassin ayant pour Aides les Srs DeLorimier

Le Sr DeBeaubassin resta au dit Lieu jusqu'au Mois de Septbre Suivant —

De Retour en cette Ville il marcha avec les Troupes et les Citoyens Contre Allen Chef des Rebelles qui étoient à la Longue Pointe où il y fut blessé à côté du Major Carden —

Que les Rebelles s'étant enfin emparé de la Ville de Montreal, il fut exposé à souffrir la plus dure des Persecutions et il s'ensuivit que dans l'Hiver de 1776 les Rebelles se saisirent de lui et l'emmenerent Prisonnier dans la Pensilvanie pendant la plus rigoureuse des Saisons, où il resta Captif pendant l'Espace de 16 Mois ayant souffert considerablement

Nov 12 1780

Madame Beaubassin

15th Decr Read 16

Concerning a Petition

heretofore delivered respecting

the demise of her Husband —